



DCSN Newsletter

June 2013 - Issue Three

Director's Message

Welcome to the third edition of our bi-annual Newsletter. As you will read in the newsletter we have been very busy over the last few months. Coming to the end of the academic year I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff, students, parents, volunteers and our sponsors for all their dedication, hard work and commitment to DCSN. The work you put in to the Center never goes unnoticed and I would like to thank you so much for making this year another success for the students.

As you will see from the newsletter, our calendar has been full with many events and visitors to the Center. Over the last 6 months we have welcomed companies including Wells Fargo, Starbucks, Johnson Controls, AMBB, Boehringer Ingelheim, NGK, Fonterra, Tanfeeth, Horizon School and there are many more which you will read about. In April we held our Annual Concert celebrating our 35 year history, which was such a milestone for the Center. From very humble beginnings, DCSN has come a long way and to re-tell our story was a wonderful privilege. Overall the night was inspirational and moving which was made extra special by the presence of HRH Princess Haya. For our Family Fun Fair we partnered with Fonterra which was also a special occasion and we look forward to making this a yearly event. It was very reassuring to see so many families at DCSN getting together to support our cause. Starbucks made their mark on the Center when they carried out their annual community project and donated a new oven, painted our school walls and landscaped our gardens. They worked hard throughout the day and significantly revitalized our environment.

On behalf of the students and staff, we want to thank the many companies and friends for all their help and support. We want you to know our doors are always open to you and we look forward to seeing you again next year after the summer break.

Dr. Mahshid Salehi



Annual Concert 2013 – 17th April 2013



On the 17th April we hosted our Annual Concert, entitled 'The Journey'. The audience discovered the history of DCSN and got an insight of what the journey of the Center

has been over the last 35 years. Featuring the talents of our students, the event showcased their passion for performing arts through singing, dancing and acting. Dur-

ing this year's concert, the audience learnt about the success stories of certain students and got a real feel for what the students have achieved. The overall impact of the concert left the audience feeling uplifted and amazed by our students' abilities. DCSN would like to thank Madinat Jumeirah, Contempo, AMBB, Gemini, G4 Securicor and Studio Ballerina for their contributions and support in making the night unforgettable.



Annual Concert

Winter Special Olympics



Mohammed Tajer, one of our talented student athletes went to South Korea to represent the UAE hockey team in the 2013 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

After an exciting game he was awarded the silver medal and was proud to share his accomplishments with his classmates and teachers upon his return.

Dubai Aquarium and Underwater Zoo

The Multi-Sensory section took a trip to the Dubai Aquarium and Underwater Zoo on February 12, 2013. Fellow classmates from the Academic section who participate in the work placement program at Dubai Aquarium were their tour guides.



Universal American School

On Sunday 24th February we had the pleasure of welcoming Year 5 students from Universal American School. A total of 77 students arrived buzzing with questions about the Center as well as a generous donation which they gathered from a fundraising initiative. The students at DCSN were excited to have such a big audience when they performed a few songs. Cheerfully clapping throughout, the pupils from the school showed their appreciation and engagement with DCSN. As part of their 'lend a hand' module the children at the school are encouraged to take positive action and make a difference within the community. They had a fantastic time and one thing that stuck with the students was how welcoming and enthusiastic the DCSN pupils were.



Tennis – Dubai Duty Free

The students at DCSN thoroughly enjoyed their day at the tennis this year. As in previous years our students get invited to the tennis tournament to have a go at playing tennis with the help of onsite coaches.



Hear Life Clinic

Hear Life Clinic came to the Center free of charge and gave all the students and staff a hearing screening. The clinic found that many students had an undetected hearing issue ranging from minor to more severe, which parents were notified of. The clinic also came into DCSN to give two training sessions to the staff about the importance of screening tests for children.



Averda Auction

Averda spent the day with DCSN students a few months ago and once they learnt more about the Center they realized they wanted to help. On learning that some students are looking for sponsorship they wanted to do some fundraising. They decided to sell some of our beautiful paintings created by DCSN students at their company auction and managed to raise a healthy donation which has gone towards sponsoring a child. It was great to go back to their offices and see DCSN paintings all over the walls of their office.



Radio Mirchi

We saw a lot of Radio Mirchi in March when they decided to come to the Center to do a radio show involving some of the students. They came and watched the students rehearse for the concert and then recorded a live radio show interviewing students such as Johann and Sam to help us raise awareness for our Center. A week later we were presented with a generous donation at their high profile 'Bollywood Rocks' event at the World Trade Center organized by Purple Vogue.



Friendship Games

The students at DCSN thoroughly enjoyed themselves at this year's Friendship Games hosted by Rashid School for Boys. For the last 10 years, the school has organized a day of healthy competition between students at DCSN, Rashid Pediatric, Al Noor and Rashid School for Boys. In total there were 200 students split amongst 10 teams. It was a great day for getting physical and mixing with other students. Well done team Red, who were the winners of the day!



Annual Fundraising Event (organized by Ms. Shahedeh Dehghani)

On the 8th March Shahedeh supported the Center for a second year in a row by organizing a carnival themed fundraising event at her own house. The event aimed to raise awareness for DCSN, which is a cause very close to Shahedeh's heart and to motivate her social network to give something back to the community.

Tickets were sold for 100 dhs and her guests enjoyed food, drinks and popcorn from 4-9pm. The raffle draw was a great highlight of the day and prizes ranged from an iPad, Nikon camera, to dinner for 2 at top restaurants. Shahede managed to attract over 50 people to her event and got over 10 prizes donated from her contacts in Dubai for the Raffle. All the proceeds raised have gone towards helping the Center.



Dubai Municipality

Dubai Municipality very generously donated a bus to the Center for student transportation as part of their community-based initiatives and willingness to support various charities. At the ceremony attended by a number of municipal officials, the key was handed over to Mohamed Fadel, our ex Financial Director.



Posh Paws Animal Sanctuary Charity

For the second time Posh Paws Animal Sanctuary brought a whole variety of animals to the Center for the students to learn about. DCSN welcomed turtles, snakes, parrots, rabbits, puppies and so many more animals. All the students from DCSN were invited to engage with the animals in order to learn, interact and have fun. For the Sensory students it was a wonderful learning experience to feel the different textures of the animals.



McDermott Charity Golf Classic

Shirley, our coordinator at DCSN, attended McDermott's Annual Charity Golf Tournament dinner. Jonathan Kennefick, the Vice President of Operations, Middle East and India presented a very generous donation to the Center. Thank you McDermott!



Good Bye Gangnam

Horizon School held an event at their school on 21st March to say good bye to Gangnam Style. Students from Horizon and DCSN participated on having one last dance off to the famous song and in the process raised money for the Center. Thanks to Horizon school for organizing such a fun event and helping DCSN.



World Down Syndrome Day

On the 21st March students from DCSN joined Dubai American Academy students in celebrating World Down Syndrome Day. The students participated in many events organized by the DAA pupils specifically to promote awareness and above all have fun!



Meydan

On the 30th March we were invited to attend the World Cup at Meydan to represent DCSN at the Emirates Skywards Draw. Every year Emirates carry out their 'Thanks a Million' campaign where they encourage participants to enter into a draw to win 1 million skywards miles. Tickets are bought for 20 dhs and the money they raise from ticket sales go towards local and global charities. This year Emirates chose DCSN along with Red Crescent and World Food Program. The campaign culminated on the night of the World Cup when the winners were drawn.



Dr Salehi's Birthday

A special assembly celebrated Dr.Salehi's birthday. All the students gathered to sing happy birthday and a huge cake was presented and shared by over 200 members of staff and students. Students also hand designed birthday cards for the Director. The Director has been at DCSN for over 22 years and on this special day the staff and students got to show their appreciation of Dr. Salehi and all the work she has put into making the Center a real success.



Wells Fargo

We went along to a dinner event held by Wells Fargo at the Jumeirah Beach Hotel on the 4th April. As part of their recent decision to work with DCSN, they very generously donated a sum of money to help us buy equipment on our wish list for the therapy department. A team from the company also came in to the Center and volunteered their time by spending a day with the students.



Family Fun Fair

On the 26th April we held a Family Fun Fair at the grounds of DCSN and welcomed friends and supporters of the Center to our fundraising event. Hundreds of people attended our Family Fun Fair which was sponsored by Fonterra. We had bouncy castles, an art & crafts station, food & drinks stalls, pony rides, face painting, a magic show and cake decorating on offer. Thanks to all of the companies who donated their services and helped to make this special day possible. All the money raised from the day has helped the students at the Center.



Starbucks

Starbucks did an amazing job at DCSN as part of their global initiative month campaign. They exceeded all expectations when they chose our Center to help as part of their community project. The Starbucks team brought to life the school's tired looking gardens at the back, painted the walls with cheerful designs, replaced our kitchen cabinets and also provided us with a brand new oven. And if that wasn't enough they also provided frappuccinos, sandwiches and muffins all day and spent time in the classrooms with the students. Thank you Starbucks!



Boehringer Ingelheim

Boehringer Ingelheim, one of the leading pharmaceutical companies, played an important part in our recent Family Fun Fair. Not only did they help sponsor the event, they provided activities such as decorating cupcakes and frames and provided the family photo booth. The children were fully immersed in their activities, all organized by their amazing team!



Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank

ADCB generously raised money from putting into auction a large amount of handmade goods and paintings done by DCSN's students. For that occasion, a committee representing the bank attended a mini concert where the students performed an Egyptian dance on stage.



BackOffice

Here is A5 enjoying an outing to BackOffice which is where two of their classmates, Ahmed & Mohammed, are on work experience. They are both thriving in a working environment and hope to make this placement more permanent.



NGK

NGK Spark Plug came to the Center on 2nd May for a special assembly to spend time with the students and presented us with a generous donation which will go towards buying security cameras for the classrooms at the Center. They also brought their mascot, 'Sparky', who visited all the classrooms to entertain the students. Stationary, cookies, t-shirts and baseball caps were handed out. Thanks to NGK for bringing their smiles, generosity and positive energy!



Commercial Bank of Dubai

CBD generously donated funds to DCSN and the students welcomed them with a special assembly where they performed many dances and recited a poem.



Sailability

On the 15th May our students received their certificates on their last sailing day this academic year. For the last few years eight of our talented students have been going to a weekly placement where they practice their skills in sailing. Sailability is committed to giving people the opportunity to learn to sail, offering a structured sailing program to students from special needs schools. Sailability activities introduce and encourage people to participate in sailing activities in a safe and supportive environment, with Bronze, Silver and Gold Certificates of Achievement to mark progress.



Prom Night

Students at DCSN were invited to a prom night at the Habtoor Grand Hotel organized by Emirates International School. 8 students from DCSN joined other students from Rashid Pediatric and Al Noor. The evening consisted of an opening dance by our very own student Hannah and the boys of course did the Gangnam dance. As part of the 'Best Buddy' program, 6 students from Emirates International School managed to organize the special event which included a buffet dinner, cake, DJ, limo ride as well as gifts for the students.



Tanfeeth

Tanfeeth, the GCC's first shared services company attended a mini-concert by the DCSN students. They have generously sponsored a student among many other initiatives such as offering work placements to our students as part of their pre-vocational curriculum. We are very much looking forward to our continued partnership. Thank you!



AMBB – Painting Project

AMBB came to DCSN with an interesting task which was to paint the hoarding boards that mask one of their construction sites (next to Jones the Grocer). 30 boards each measuring approx 1 meter by 2.5 meters were delivered to the Center. The students got busy painting their bright and colorful designs on the boards. The result is a 40 meter wide mural which is visible from the Sheikh Zayed Road, which has been picked up by the press and made it on the front cover of the National (newspaper).



Tel +971 4 3440966 Fax +971 4 3440886 P.O.Box 24921, Dubai, UAE
Email pr@dcsneeds.com / pr2@dcsneeds.com
Website www.dcsneeds.ae