



UAE SCHOOL'S CUP FINAL

After a semi-final victory against Al Ma'arifa International Private School, Sharjah, students of ISC-Dubai qualified for the duFC National Final Football match that was held at Dubai Mall. On Saturday 19th March, crowds of supportive students, teachers, families and eager shoppers flocked around the giant ice rink that had been turned into a grassy football pitch. Our Under 16 boys' team played against a team from Lycée Français International Georges Pompidou. Only two years ago our schools faced each other in the same final, where we came in esteemed second place. However, this year, after five months of commitment, dedication, and sheer hard work, ISC-Dubai finally triumphed! Captain Peter Khraish, vice-captain Dani Soubra, Mahan Javaheri, Ahmad El Saadi, Nizar Naamani, Yuveer Kelkar, Rifaat Pervez, Anthony Salibi, Omar Al Qarout, Yousof Maraqa, Mengdi Chen and Amir Faghihi all displayed superior sportsmanship in what was a thrilling and exhilarating event. The atmosphere throughout the stands was tense as both teams walked onto the pitch. Shouts of support erupted from both sides, and the highly anticipated game commenced. Within the first ten minutes, Peter scored the first goal; shortly afterwards, Anthony scored again from an impressive distance to the sound of cheer from the enthusiastic masses. Our goalkeeper Mahan deflected numerous goals from the opposing team, and by half-time ISC-Dubai was in the lead 2-0. Our opponents demonstrated tremendous skill, leveling the score at 2-2 within the second half. Nail biting tension gripped the stadium as the final moments of the match approached. In the heart-stopping last minute, Peter Khraish scored the winning goal. Applause and cheer thundered as our players were handed their trophy, declaring them the best football team in the UAE. Rejoicing with them was Coach Catalin Ungureanu, who guided and mentored them on this tremendous journey. Also cheering in the stands were school director Mr. Hisham Hassan and head of sports Mr. Edward Fenics, as well as countless supportive staff members. This was a great accomplishment; over the past few months 657 teams and 7117 players across the country had participated in this competition, leading up to this proud moment. It has been a long-awaited and well-deserved victory. The boys' excellent skill and determination was also showcased last week, when they qualified for the Knockout stage, winning both matches on penalties. Furthermore, our Under 14 boys' team made it to the quarterfinals against Philadelphia Private School, Dubai, and our Under 17 girls excelled in the group stages. We are so proud of all our students' successes.



