



Trip To The Executive Office, Dubai



On the morning of Wednesday, 5th October 2016, five of our Emirati students at ISC Dubai, were invited to The Executive Office of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, to showcase the wonderful piece of art, a chair, which they designed as part of a creative initiative devised by the government of Dubai for local students. Mahra Aljanahi, Maria Al Dam, Mariam Al Shaer, Roudha Al Mansoori and Noora Suwaidi, along with members of staff from the SLO and Arabic Department, were greeted by Maryam Al Mansoori, an outstanding ISC Dubai Alumni.

After reaching the 51st floor of the Emirates Tower, everyone was ushered into a special 'Think Tank' room, a creative space overlooking the city of Dubai that was established by Sheikh Mohammed and his son, Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum, the Crown Prince of Dubai. Inside this special space is reportedly where many of Dubai's inspiring ideas are hatched, planted, nurtured and developed right in front of their very eyes, to keep the city constantly involving into the masterpiece we see today.

A speech of appreciation was delivered by Mr Abdulla Bin Touq, the Director General of The Executive Office and each student was given the opportunity to explain the concept behind the design of the chair. The once, bare, four-legged wooden chair, an exemplary illustration of Dubai in the 1970s, transformed into an exquisite piece of art as we know it today, a shining beacon of creativity, ambition and an attitude of determination that nothing is impossible. Each leg of the chair is painted a different colour that corresponds to the United Arab Emirates flag and written on each of these legs are four important traits that represents Arabian unity; strength of mind, courage, hope and peace. Inside the circumference of the seat is the striking acrylic painting containing the Burj Al Arab, the Burj Khalifia, a camel, palm tree and the beautiful golden beach, all surrounded in a flowered mirage in the colours of the United Arab Emirates flag.

Following this small ceremony, the group was graciously given an impressive tour of the offices, which included a chance to view the exclusive 52nd floor, showcasing an unbelievable, breathtaking view of Dubai. The tour concluded with a delicious hot chocolate, overlooking DIFC and a gift from The Executive Office. The students gratefully demonstrated their appreciation for the magnificent opportunity by delivering a short expression of their gratitude in both English and Arabic. The chair now resides in this 'Think Tank' room in The Executive Office and will be exhibited to Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum, the Crown Prince of Dubai.



