

SURKHIYAN

सुरखिया

BOOK WEEK

INDEPENDENCE
DAY

NATIONAL ART
COMPETITION



GANESH CHATURTHI

ONLINE YOGA

GERMAN PASCH CAMP

*Cover photo depicts projects from Traditional Indian Art Activity



Greetings from Team Garodia

With the school term beginning earlier this year, we have ensured there are even more reasons celebrate and enjoy the learning journey in the 2020-2021 academic year. The month of August was no exception, as it was packed with fun events and celebrations, a much-required break from the forced house arrest.

The month began with Eid celebrations, closely followed by Raksha Bandhan. Though students had regular online learning sessions with their teachers, we ensured that they had enough time to bond and celebrate Raksha Bandhan with their siblings and family.

“Reading gives us some place to go when we have to stay where we are,” said Mason Cooley. And so we set the Book Week rolling at the beginning of the month, ensuring students were able to reinforce good reading habits early in the year. Students from Primary grades engaged in a lot of fun activities revolving around books and

reading. Read alouds, letters to authors, Book Character Parade, Spin a Yarn, Stories from far and wide, Bedtime stories.... the fun continued. Students looked forward to a new story in a different language every day of the week. The whole school ensured there was reading enrichment activities in every lesson or concept that was taught. The weekly news quiz was also based on books that week, and each group had great fun competing with the others. Students also spent time getting to know about Dr Krishnan, founder and mentor to Garodia School, in whose remembrance we celebrate this week every year.

Students were also kept busy with lessons and after school activities right till the end of the month when they enjoyed a term break during Ganesh Puja holidays. As we come to end of Term 1, we are hoping more than ever for a quick and safe return to school.

Mrs Mahalakshmi Anand
Primary Head



August In Nursery

EARLY YEARS

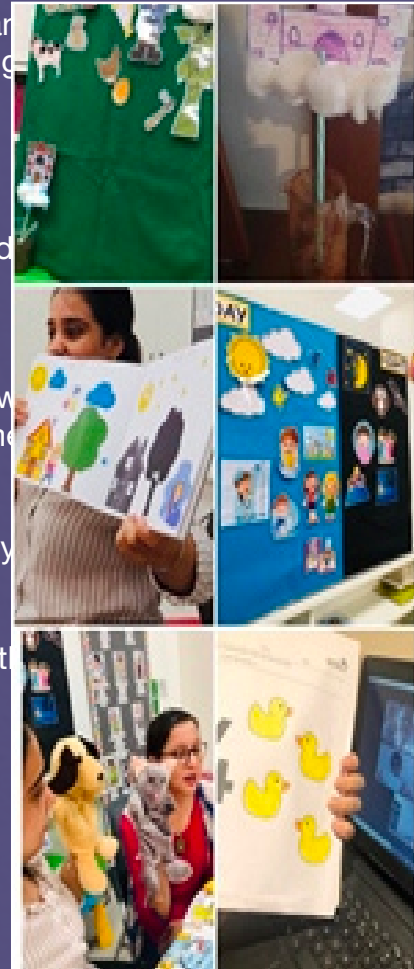
The month of August has been buzzing like a busy bee with festivities and a number of activities. The tiny ones of Nursery were captivated listening to many stories and learning about the significance and why certain festivals are celebrated.

Everyone loves listening to fairy tales. Our nursery children are no exception. They listened with awe to a very popular fairy tale 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' From the start, 'Once upon a time' to the end, 'they lived happily ever after', our little minds were actively thinking what might happen next.

The magic beans that started to grow left them wondering how it happened. Their thoughts were put to rest when they actually got to sow the seeds and saw a sapling grow. "Wow! That is so cool," they exclaimed with a smile on their faces.

Another interactive session made them understand what we do during the day and what we do at night. Our tiny ones enjoyed a sorting activity where they also learned new vocabulary. Even while learning language skills, numbers did not take a backseat. Learning the number four through a story again made the children sit up and understand not just the number, but also many related mathematical concepts.

This is the right age to develop their thinking and reasoning which was achieved through the stories and activities. Indeed, August was a very fruitful month for our Nursery students.



- Nursery



Cloud Gazing!

Our K1 children got a chance to explore and find out all about clouds. They had fun making their own clouds using shaving foam. The children saw that every cloud made was different in size. They also felt the texture and found out if the clouds merge, they become bigger in size.

It was a fun and informative session. Children were also asked to observe the clouds every day for a week and make a cloud book.

- Kindergarten I



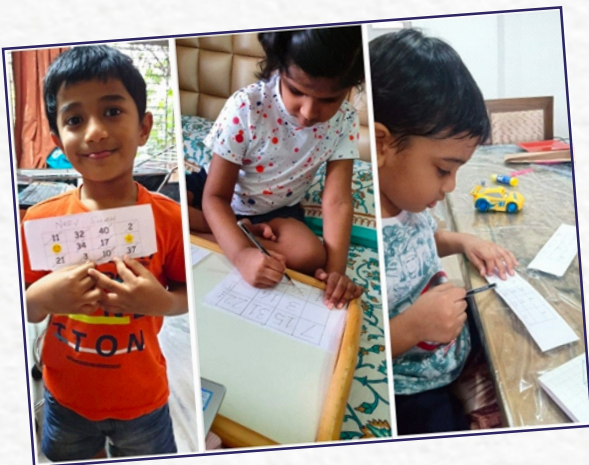
Shadow Play!

Shadow play in the classroom is a great way to capture children's attention and spark their imagination and creativity. Our K1 children had a fun session playing with their own shadow and making shadows of their toys. We also spoke about how we might feel frightened in the dark, but only because we can't see anything. They understood how the Sun is the source of light and makes beautiful shadows and if we don't have any light, we won't have a shadow.

It was fun-filled and yet a very engrossing session for our children.



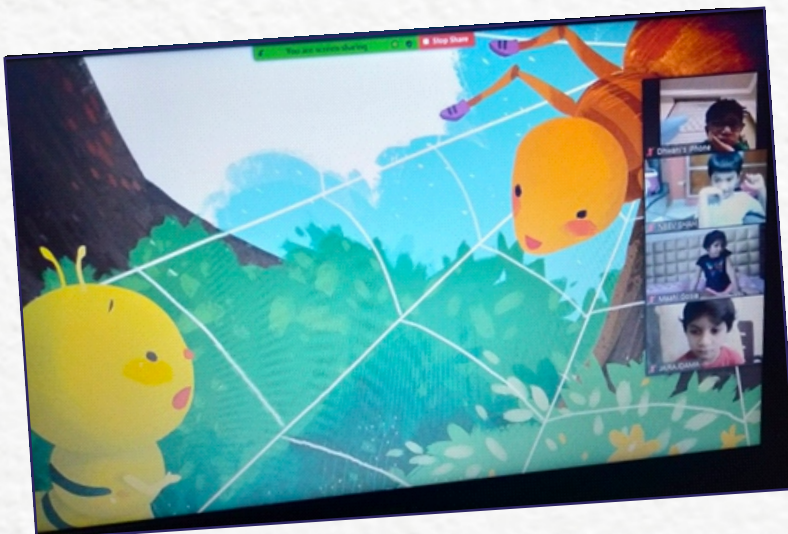
Games in K2



'Housie' is a popular game loved by people of all ages. Our K2 children enjoyed playing this game along with their peers and tutors. They patiently followed the instructions as they were eager to strike off the numbers on their tickets. Such games help to enhance their listening skills, visual discrimination, numerical skills, also reinforces the concept of before and after numbers.

Literary Week

The Literary Week saw our K2 children engrossed in listening to stories narrated by the tutors. They expressed their favourite stories through drawing as well as shared the stories or spoke about their favourite characters with their peers and tutors. They were also involved in language activities where they had to form as many new words as possible from one word, learnt about the lifecycle of a butterfly etc. based on the stories told to them. Allowing children to speak in front of their peers build confidence in them. It gives them a chance to understand others' point of view as well. Listening to stories enhances their vocabulary, imagination and problem-solving skills.



Janmashtami

The birth of Lord Krishna, also known as Janmashtami, was celebrated in great grandeur by the Early Years Team at GICLM. The little ones of Early Years were all excited and dressed in traditional attire at home for the session. It was indeed nice to see all children dressed as Radha and Krishna. It was a Wonderful Wednesday with activities relating to the festival including colouring, sticking, and making sweets. Students also sang songs and learned about the significance of Janmashtami.

Happy Janmashtami GICLM family!



Independence Day!

Our Early Years Students at GICLM had a fun-filled celebration on this special occasion of Independence Day.

The spirit of freedom and nationalism was well exhibited during the online session by the students and tutors through a spectrum of patriotic songs, an Independence Day PPT, learning about different Indian spices, decorating the tricolour flag, creating tricolour butterflies by using art and craft material, and making tricolour sandwiches.



Ganesh Chaturthi



Early Years students celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi with great splendour during the online session! They were all excited and kept shouting 'Ganapati Bappa Morya' while they were creating their very own Ganesh idol with decorative art and craft materials. The students also had fun making and munching on coconut laddoos. They enjoyed drawing Lord Ganesh step by step through following the instructions given. The session ended with a lot of learning which included the story of Lord Ganesh.

Happy Ganesh Chaturthi!



Comic-ed Fun!

Story creations are a blast when creativity is unleashed. Students from Grade 3 had this exact opportunity for Book Week this year. They were involved in a variety of different activities where they collaborated, acted, and wrote their own stories. They not only had the opportunity to create some wonderful stories, but one of their activities also involved creating their own comic strips. Comic books and graphic novels can help people learn information that they may otherwise find boring, or to entertain. Each of them got to create their very own comics using StoryBoardThat.com, where they selected their own settings, added actions, speech bubbles, and created their own characters in their stories. Have a read of the amusing comics created by Grade 3's and try it out yourself!



Character Dress Up

To conclude Book week celebrations, students from Grade 3 dressed up as some of their favourite book characters. Students were very excited to guess and determine which characters their friends had dressed up as, and the stories they were from. The class dressed up as some very exciting magical characters to conclude the week's events. Take a look and see if you can determine the stories our young readers are from.



Forgotten Heroes of India

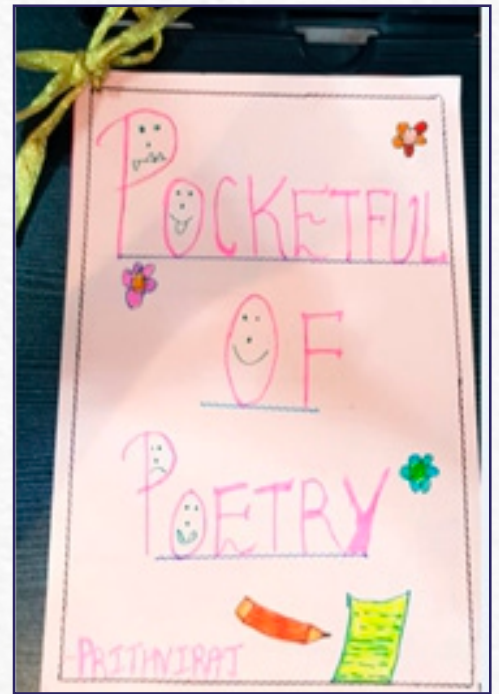
This Independence Day, our young learners of Grade 5, inquired about the heroes of Modern India as a part of their 'Biography' unit in English. To begin, students researched one freedom fighter and one builder of Modern India. Students responded with great enthusiasm and came back revelling on the lost glories of Indian history. Some of the great Indians they researched were Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Lala Lajpatrai, Jamshedji Tata, and Dr Homi Baba Dhyanchan.

- Grade 5



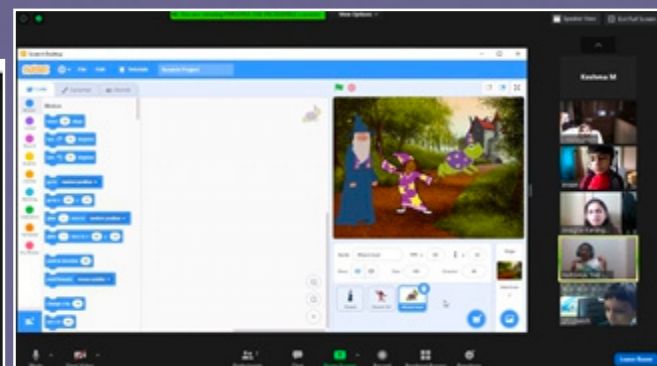
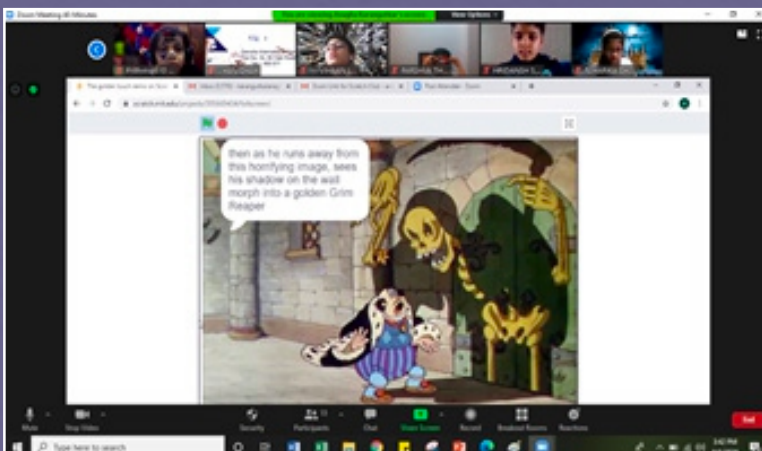
Pocketful of Poetry

The students of Grade 4 put on their thinking caps because they had the task of writing their own poem! The future authors of the world seemed to really enjoy this task. "Our English teacher taught us the process of writing our own poem by using different adjectives, alliteration, rhymes, and different genres of poems which made our task easier. We had to write simple poems on things and characters we like. This was a wonderful task as we learnt something new and had a lot of fun creating poems and penning it down too," said Prithviraj Shah of Grade 4. As you can see, the students did a fabulous job! Through the creation of a poetry book, students were able to explore different types of poems and created their own using different poetic forms and devices. They wrote an 'Acrostic' poem for their favourite book character, a 'Haiku' and 'Cinquain' poem as well.



Coded Stories

Book Week celebrations continued through for Primary students during their weekly extra-curricular activities. Students from Scratch received the opportunity to learn how to code their stories. They worked in teams to program and create their own stories with different characters, settings, and plots. Together they tried and tested ways to animate their creations with speech bubbles, motions and sound to move their various objects and characters. Take a look at some of the beginnings of their creation.



Learning through Drawings

As a part of Book Week, the little artists of Grade 5 created their own characters in their virtual art class. The teacher and students discussed how and why characters are important for every story. Teachers then showed different examples to the students so they could understand the concept of character design. For the activity, students had to focus on three concepts which included face expression, outfit, and colour scheme. Students were also told to write the character's name, speciality, and something about his/her hobby. Overall, students had a great time creating their own characters.

- Grade 5



Brainwave: Exit Point

Last week the students of Grade 4 and 5 had the Exit Point for the IPC unit 'Brain-wave'. The Exit Point is held to encourage students to reflect on their learning from the unit and to celebrate their progress. Every child displayed their understanding that they developed over the five weeks of the unit. It is fair to say that all the children had an amazing time displaying what they had learnt and they were eager to know about the next IPC unit.



Ganesh Idol Making

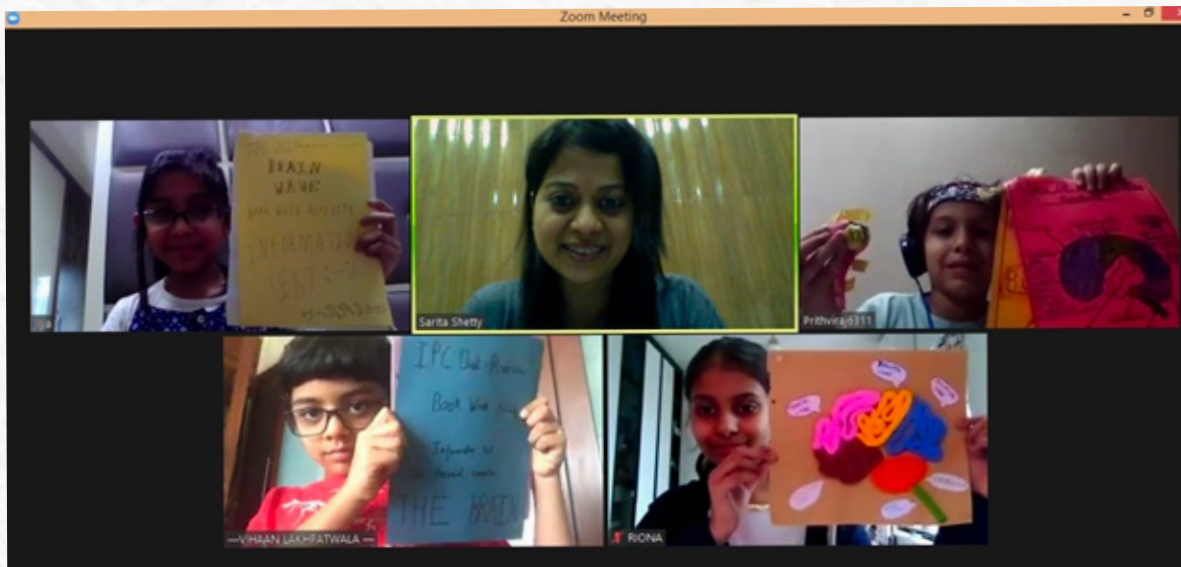
Our great sculpture artists of Grade 5 sculpted a Ganesh idol for the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi. Students used clay to make the idol. Our art teacher, Mr Amit Kawale, first showed a demonstration on how to make Ganesh idols with easy and simple steps. Some students made an idol with one colour while others made it a colorful idol. After completing the idol,, students decorated the idol and placid it on a decorative corner. It was a wonderful session and students had a great time!

- Grade 5



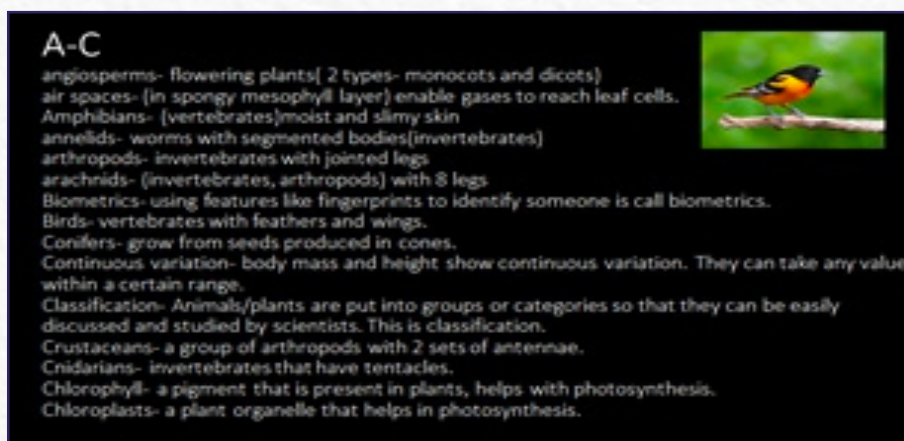
All About our Brain

For the ongoing IPC unit, 'Brainwave', and also as a part of the Book Week event, students of Grade 4 and 5 created a booklet to demonstrate their understanding. They wrote an information text entitled 'The Brain', and provided some interesting facts. The children also drew a diagram and labelled it to explain the different parts and their functions.



Book Week In Chemistry and Biology

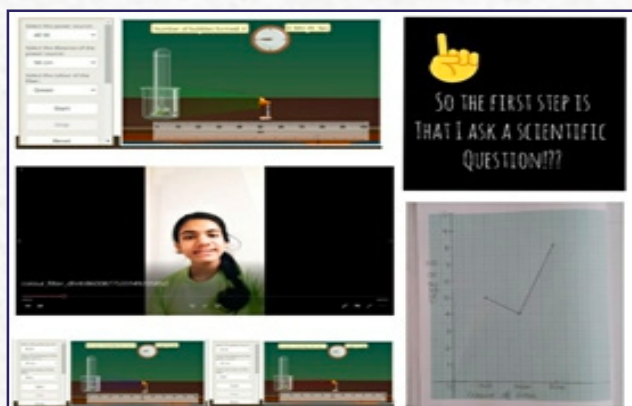
In honour and memory of our founder Dr Krishnan, once every year, all the students of GICLM take part in a Book Week event. Indeed there were engaging activities related to literature and books that the students of Grade 7 participated in. Additionally, this year for Chemistry and Biology, students were expected to make a crossword and a dictionary. Students made dictionaries through a PowerPoint presentation and the crossword was made on paper or using a Word document to make it more intriguing. This was an individual activity, which helped the teachers understand each students' potential and their creativity. The peculiar ideas and unique outcomes by each student impressed their teachers and these activities got their brains thinking in order to make something different from their classmates and stand out from the rest. The students not only learned, but also had a great time with this activity. One Grade 7 student exclaimed, "My experience doing this was very good as I got to revisit all the vocab-ulary that had been covered so far. Making this dictionary was helpful because this gave me a chance to revise all the key terms in the chapters!"



Jia Sankhla
Grade 7

Colour Filters and Photosynthesis

While learning the aspects of plants and their processes, the students of Grade 8 were introduced to a subtopic of colour filters. In order to create a scientific atmosphere, Ms Riya first provided a link to a website through which students could learn the process of photosynthesis with different variables including colour filters. To make the activity more interesting, the teacher gave the steps in the task box which made the students very curious. The students explored the website and formed a video of the procedure. In the beginning, the students were a little confused and unsure about the hypothesis they made, but after gaining more experience and doing it multiple times, they understood it better and were able to come up with a new and different hypothesis. A basic format and little knowledge were provided, but the teacher wanted to see how the students could make their own hypothesis. To start off, the students created a scientific question. For example, "does the colour of light affect the rate of photosynthesis?" When they got the hang of the method, students were then allowed to try it with variables, controlling the light intensity, time, distance, and changing the colour of the filters. The conclusion all students came to was that the green filter absorbed most of the green light and that it was essential for photosynthesis.

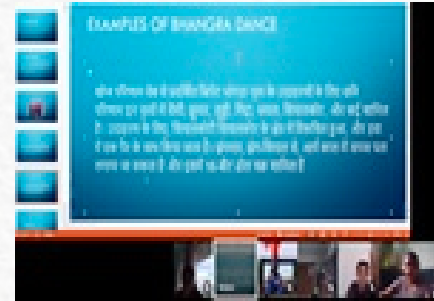
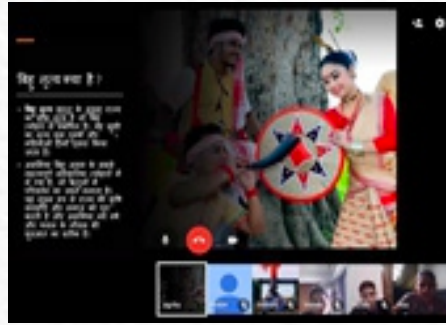


Dhriti Ajmera
Grade 8



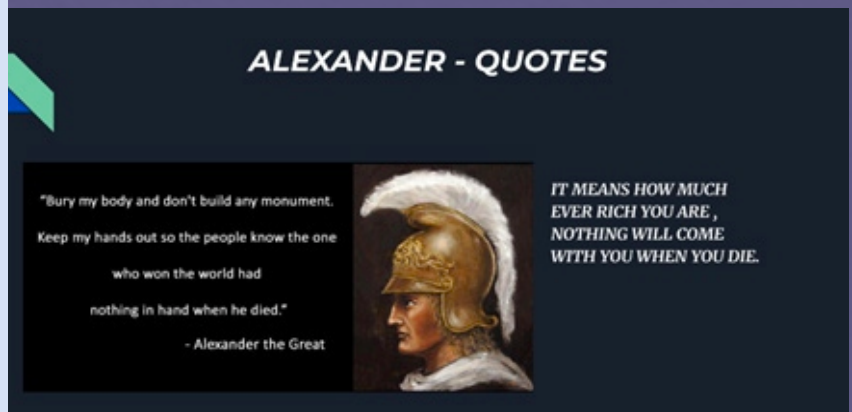
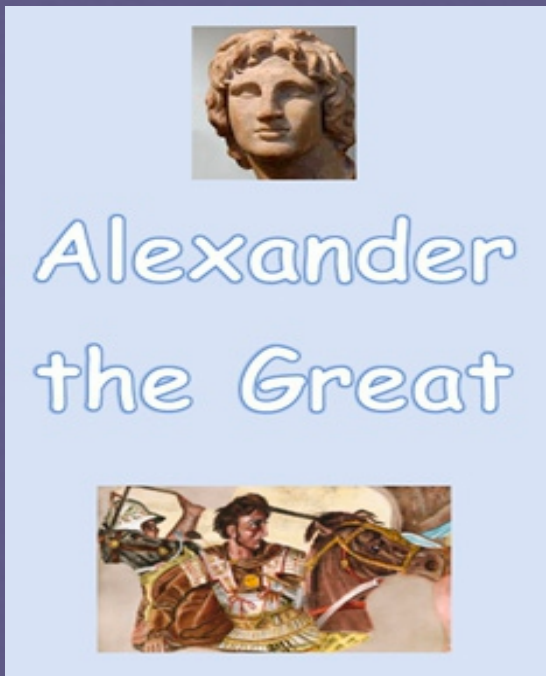
समाज एवं संस्कृती

कक्षा 10 के 10 कक्षाओं 'समाज एवं संस्कृति' से 'समके अंतर्विभाजन स्क्रूके वृत्ति' इस विषय को अपने मनपसंद विभाजन का चुनाव करके उसकी जानकारी काकारी कर कर करने का अवसर दिया गया। इस काका अवसर दिदिभाको भारत इस गतितिसंवृधितथा वाद्वारके ाछालों के बारेबारे मेंमें समझने काका मौमौकाका पर ंकीकरण केिकियाया गया। प्रस्तुतीतीकरण केकेदुत और वाक्छाछालोंतों केके हिहिहिंदीदी गयाया। छात्रे अनुसार देरों केके अनु ंसास देदैनिक कक्षाक षेसा सेसे कुछ हटंजक, कौशलपूण िएवंधि केकेकेकेलिए बहुत हीही मनोने लेलेकर सभीभी ाछालों तों ने इसका क िकिया और इसे सफल बनाया।



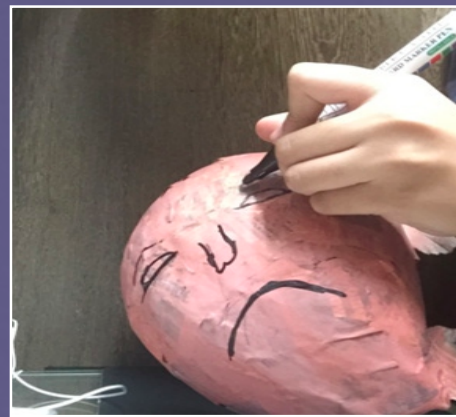
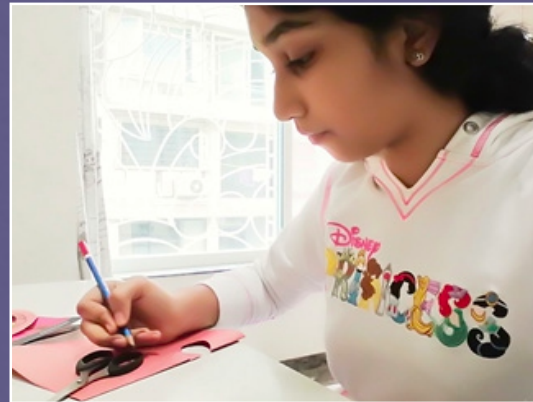
All About Alexander The Great

For the ongoing unit 'Classical Greece', students of Grade 7 learnt about the life of Alexander the Great and his conquests. They created a booklet wherein they drew a timeline to display their understanding about his life. They also decoded the meaning of many inspirational quotes written by Alexander the Great.



Unmask the Mask: Reveal The True Character

For the chapter 'Greece's Golden Age', students of Grade 7 learnt about how Greeks invented drama as an art form and how actors wore masks to dramatize stories. As a follow-up activity, the students created theatrical masks to get a feel of how Greeks wore these masks that exaggerated human expressions for their drama which was either tragedy or comedy.



Traditional Art in India

In order to incorporate cultural learning into our art class, Grade 6 and 7 students explored the traditional art forms of India, including "Madhubani" and "Kalamkari". Students recreated a Ganesha with specific art form style. Grade 6 learned Madhubani art and they created a Madhubani style Ganesha. Students tried to apply the skills they learned in order to fulfil the expectations of Madhubani. Grade 7 students learned the Kalamkari art form. They first worked to understand the process of original Kalamkari art and then created the Kalamkari Ganesha on paper. They have used all types of Kalamkari patterns in their artwork. Overall, students understood the concepts very well and produce some brilliant art work.



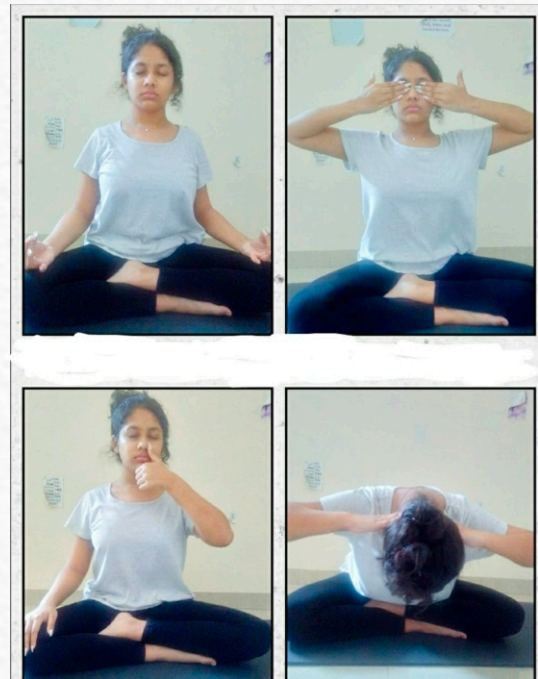
Skeletal System in 3-D

The students of Grade 6 have been recently making the skeletal system in 3D. To begin, students made a model at home using clay, wire, paper, and beads. Students felt that after making this, it helped them understand the topic in more detail and helped familiarize them with the concepts of the skeletal system and its parts. This was an activity given to the students so that they would enjoy learning by using a different technique, and the students felt it was very amusing and preferred to learn things in unique ways once a while. This also helped the students get their creative side out and show it to the class.



Happy Yoga Day

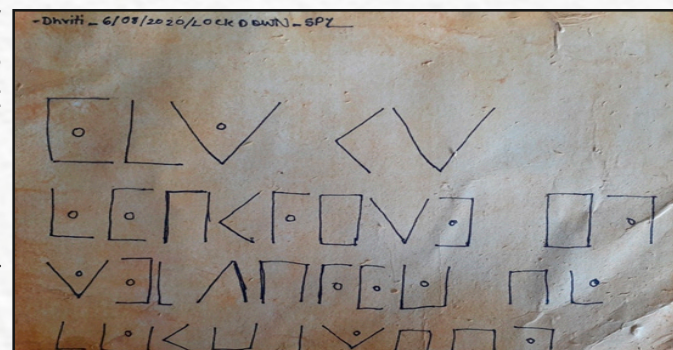
“Yoga means addition -- the addition of energy, strength, and beauty to the body, mind and soul”- JasonCrandell. Indeed, as one fits a regular yoga routine into their schedule, physical changes begin to occur inside and out. One can like yoga because of how soothing its effects are. A session of calm and tranquil yoga is a must, especially, after a monotonous day full of studying or work. It is a proven fact that regular yoga can greatly reduce stress levels. Yoga can be the main factor of being positive and calm throughout the day. It helps in sprinkling positive vibes everywhere just like confetti! At GICLM, yoga is promoted to increase students’ concentration on education. Yoga allows one to take systematic effort, which in turn, improves one’s personality. Here at GICLM, Yoga Day is celebrated too! It comes on our list of “one of the most important events”. One gets to focus on their strength and flexibility. It definitely helps one to tone their body and improve their fitness, but it also helps our body internally. To sum it up, yoga definitely is a must for one’s mental as well as physical health!



JiaSuri
Grade 9

I Spy Activity

For the unit ‘The American Revolution’, students of Grade 8 learnt about the important role a spy played during the American Revolution. The students learnt some of the ways the messages were kept a secret. For example, a cypher, wherein messages were written using symbols for letters and numbers as well as mask letters, where the true message of the letter would appear within the boundaries of the ‘mask’. As a followup activity, the students acted as a member of a spying organization from the Revolutionary War and wrote secret codes using their cypher and mask letters.



Representing India at the International German Olympiad

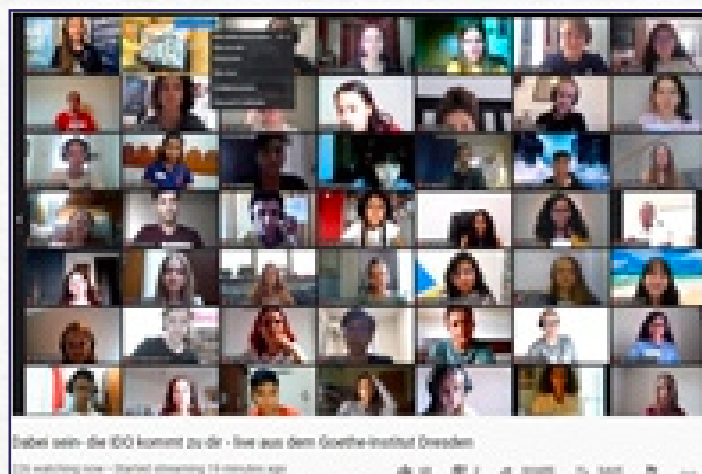
I got the wonderful opportunity to represent my country, India, at the International German Olympiad (IDO) 2020, which took place digitally for the first time. The pride and honour of representing my country at the IDO with around 132 participants from 67 countries from all over the globe motivated me to prepare and work hard in order to perform my best. The best way to prepare was by immersing myself into the German culture, as it helped me understand the language better, and even helped me improve my fluency.

The competition was spread across five days. The IDO started with the ice breaker games and a virtual tour of the city of Dresden in Germany. The first competition task was to recreate one of the six artworks from the Dresden Art Gallery and describe my version of the artwork in German in 200 words. Furthermore, I had to shoot a 120 seconds video, wherein I compared the original artwork to my version and elaborated on my interpretation behind the painting. Performing these tasks under a time limit was challenging, but it taught me to work efficiently under pressure. On the third day, we had a group task, wherein we were shown a video without the audio and had to interpret the meaning of the video in a group. Additionally, we had to continue the story and present it in the form of a play within 30 minutes. Intercultural competencies were also tested along with the German skills here.

Facing such unique and challenging tasks was indeed a true test of our linguistic and creative skills, and I am glad that I was able to accomplish all the tasks successfully. It was an amazing international experience to broaden my horizons, make new friends from all over the globe, understand various intercultural perspectives, and most importantly enhance my linguistic skills. This competition has now strengthened my confidence to face the challenges in the world, understand various viewpoints, and integrate into the international community.

I was pleasantly surprised at being chosen for an interview on the German news channel ARD, and my introduction video showcased at one of the morning briefing of the IDO. Having answered all sorts of questions in the television interview, and of the participants of the IDO at the briefing, has taught me to face the world with a calm and composed manner. Besides serious tasks, we also had our leisure moments, where we explored multiple study and work opportunities in Dresden and got to know the teenagers in Germany and the historical importance of the city.

I am really thankful to my German Teacher, Ms Uma, for her constant guidance, support, and motivation throughout my learning years, which have played an important role in me reaching this level and representing my country. On a concluding note, I would like to encourage my junior colleagues to proactively participate in such opportunities with an open mind and give them their best shot. This will surely help you immensely in your selfdevelopment and future career path.



IBDP PE CLASS

For the GICLM newsletter in the month of August, interviews of a few students were taken to share their experiences in PE class. Here are the questions: 1. Which exercises do you like? 2. Does PE help you relieve stress? 3. How has your experience been so far in PE at GICLM?

Soumil Iyer:

In this situation, where exercising outdoors is very dangerous, the online PE lessons have helped me a lot in the past two months to overcome laziness and regain my activeness. I particularly enjoyed exercises such as push-ups with dumbbells (doing a push-up and then lifting a dumbbell on either side), plank jacks, and other variations of planks. After the PE lessons, I feel that I can focus better during school hours and after-school hours. Moreover, I feel that after exercising, some of my stress is relieved and I am more active throughout the rest of the day. So far, I have enjoyed the range of exercises that we do in the PE lessons and I look forward to attending future PE lessons to learn more activities.

Ninupta Srinath:

“You have to think about it before you can do it. The mind is what makes it all possible.” — Kai Greene, bodybuilder and artist. As a lover of fitness and a stressor on the importance of physical endurance, I've been attending all of the PE lessons, and they have been so much fun so far! My experience has included everything from learning how to work out with dumbbells properly, to cooling down and warming up to avoid injury, among others. I am enjoying the rigorous exercises ("intense workout exercises") the most. Apart from that, I am also loving the full-body workouts - along with dumbbells - as those exercises truly test my strength and stamina. PE also makes me relax, even when I'm doing the most extreme exercises... that's the beauty of fitness.

Dheemahi Udupa:

Every week I attend PE class which lasts one hour. In each class, we do different and new exercises. I enjoy all the exercises that we are doing, but I particularly like the ones which focus on the abs because it is a great way to get the body active while still not tiring me out completely. I think PE class is a great way to take a break from the stress that builds up from academics. So far, the whole experience of PE classes has been great because it helps me take a break from sitting down all day and I am looking forward to attending more PE sessions.

Hardik Nagarkar:

I enjoy doing leg exercises since I play badminton often and it helps me improve my game. Shuttle runs and side to side running are some of my favourites. Since we are doing six hours of online school, PE is a great break from the usual sit down and during lockdown where the activity is not much, I find it very refreshing to start the day with PE, as it makes the day a lot less stressful. I think the class and the teachers offer us a fair challenge and push us to go beyond our limits and to see the teachers so enthusiastic about the session gives great energy to the class. My experience in PE class at GICLM has been nothing but outstanding and I would love to see more classes a week.

Ananya Sudhir:

For me, it is never one particular exercise. Sometimes I enjoy doing core, whereas other times, arms and legs are great too. PE is a great way for me to relieve stress as I enjoy working out. This time has been rough for all of us and workouts have helped me overall. It calms me and helps me relax and sleep well.

Aryan Shah:

The exercises which I enjoy the most are push-ups, crunches, and the workouts with the dumbbells. It has helped me shift my attention from academics and acted as a stress buster. Moreover, I was able to maintain my body shape and physique during the lockdown. Activities normally revolving around the dumbbells were a challenge at the start, but slowly and steadily I can see an improvement in my muscle strength and growth and I am sure that this will even help me during other sports. Last but not least, the PE classes have been an amazing experience at GICLM and it is really nice to loosen up a bit during the week.



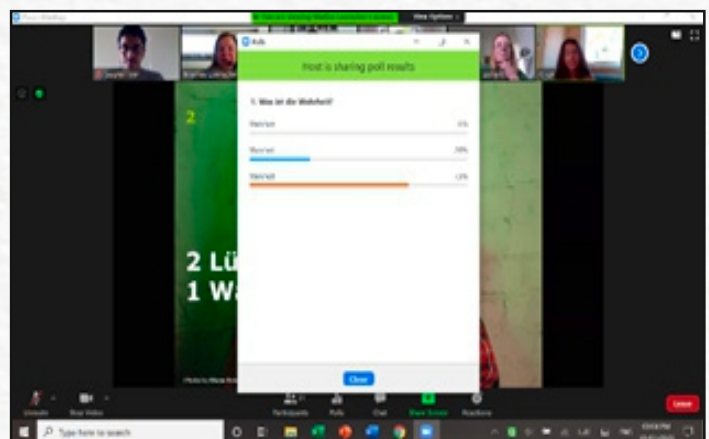
Yoga in CAS

We recently had a wonderful session of Nidra Yoga conducted by Ms Namita and Ms Anurita for CAS. It was conducted online on Zoom.

Nidra Yoga is an age-old practice of relaxing the body and the mind. Yoga Nidra or yogic sleep is a state of consciousness between waking and sleeping, like the "going-to-sleep" stage, typically induced by a guided meditation. There is evidence that Yoga Nidra helps relieve stress. Some benefits of Nidra Yoga is that anyone can practice it, you cannot practice Yoga Nidra incorrectly, it is easy to incorporate into your daily life, it's a simple way to relieve stress, and it offers the opportunity to learn about yourself intimately. The session lasted for 45 mins as we practised exercises guided by Ms Namita and Ms Anurita. The whole process was very rejuvenating.

Our Experience at the German PASCH Camp

During the month of August, we got an opportunity to participate in a German camp for young learners around the world. Initially, we were not sure how engaging the online camp would really be. However, our experience in the two-week-long PASCH camp was much better than we had anticipated. Goethe Institute had organized the camp very well considering the current situation of COVID-19. We learnt a lot about various themes such as energy, school life, and waste disposal during the camp. It helped us enrich our vocabulary and we also got an amazing opportunity to speak in German with the teachers and other participants. However, it was not just studying, as we also had regular meetings with a student in Germany of our age and we got to learn a lot about the German language and culture from her. We played short quizzes and heard some German songs for fun. As a part of our project, our group created a small and simple mind map with short points and pictures that everyone must follow in order to protect the environment. After this camp, we can speak and write better in German and we are able to use the German language more effectively in everyday Conversations. Overall, it was an amazing experience and it was worthwhile to take part, as this camp was very beneficial and fun for us.

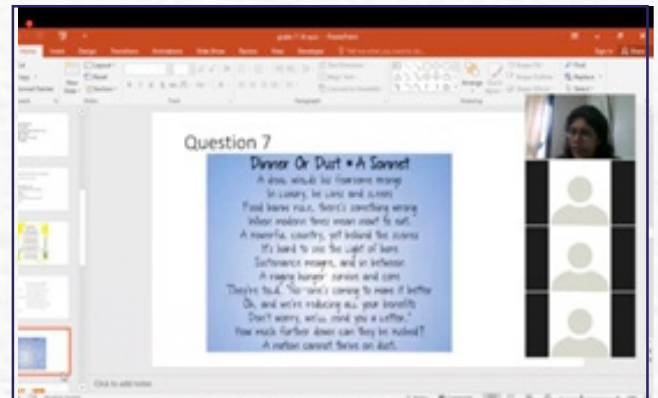
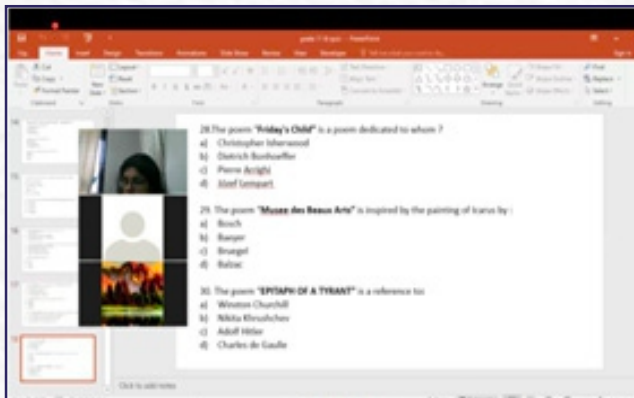


Book Week Quizzes

It was finally time for our annual Book Week at school. Something not only our students, but also our teachers enjoy to the fullest! During the week students got an opportunity to explore different texts and indulge in the practice of reading. This indeed reminds us of the importance of reading and its implications. While involving an element of reading, exploring, and analysing literature in each subject during the week, English teachers required each grade to collectively appear for a literary quiz which was based on their level and capabilities, while bringing in the sense of fun competition the class with the highest score wins!

More specifically, this year, this quiz was conducted online, during the allotted 'tutor time' in place of our regular, weekly news quiz. The questions consisted of primarily literature texts that a student of a particular grade may be expected to know, as well as questions about corresponding authors, book titles, literary devices, and publishers. Then, followed a section made by respective English teachers asking questions about the books, short stories, and poems taught in class.

Despite the quiz being held online, one must say that the energy and enthusiasm involved was just like that of always. This literary quiz not only encouraged and gauged the literary ability in students, but also induced an element of teamwork and collaboration, as the entire tutor group performed collectively and strived to be the best.



The Benefits of Reading

From the 2nd to the 8th of August, we at GICLM celebrated Book Week, a week filled with engaging activities associated with literature. In this fast-paced digital age, it is not difficult to disregard the value of reading books. Let us remind you that this practice of reading books builds cognitive engagement that may help improve one's vocabulary, thinking skills, and concentration. It may also induce empathy, social perception, and emotional intelligence, all of which are fundamental aspects of being not only a global citizen, but of a responsible individual that can leave a mark on this world.

Yet another important advantage of reading is that it helps reduce anxiety, whether it is related to work or school. While reading a book, the story transports you to another realm and will drain away all your tension. It helps improve your concentration. If you try reading for 15 minutes before commencing your task, you will notice that your on-task concentration will increase drastically. Furthermore, it helps enhance your knowledge. Everything you read fuels your brain with bits of information that can come in handy in any situation and help tackle any problem. Also, it helps promote strong analytical skills. While reading a book, you put your critical thinking skills to test by analysing the plot, the storyline, and the characters, which can help in your daily life. Lastly, it stimulates your brain. Reading keeps your brain active and prevents the brain from losing its powers, which may be beneficial to prevent Dementia and Alzheimers.

As you can see, the various benefits of reading can help you in your daily life. So make it a habit to take 15 minutes each day and read a book that will interest you.

Dheemahi Udapa
Grade II



Grade by Grade Book Recommendations

Hello readers! We at Surkhiya are back with our grade by grade book recommendations. Such recommendations being made are in the interest of encouraging students to read more and become early readers. In the spirit of this month's Book Week, here are some recommendations for each grade:

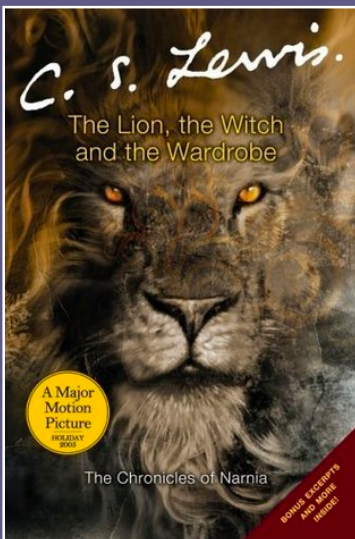
Grades 1-3: Charlotte's Web, by E B White

Charlotte's Web, by E B white, is a beautiful and perfect story for children to read and explore. This book tells the story of how a little girl named Fern, with the help of an amiable, talking spider, called Charlotte, saved her pig -- Wilbur, from the fate of all wellrounded hogs.

Not only is it fun and enjoyable to read, but it is also an unusual and witty story that provides a gentle introduction to children about topics like morality, camaraderie and friendship. Charlotte's Web is one of the most famous works of E B White (b.1899 - 1985), among these, is the very well known, Stuart Little, which was also made into an award-winning, blockbuster film.



Grades 4-5: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, By C S Lewis

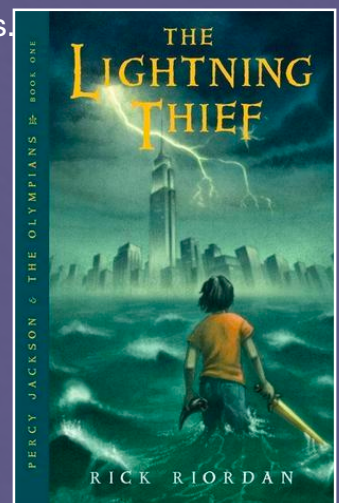


A book belonging to the well-known Chronicles of Narnia is a classic story that is certain to acquire the attention of fascinated young minds, while cleverly blending elements of fairytale and fantasy to create a wonderfully engaging adventure. It is yet another tale that celebrates the victory of good over evil.

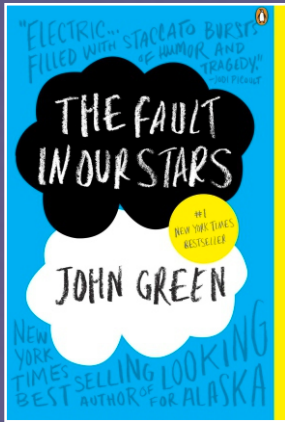
This story starts with four siblings who are sent to another country as a result of a war breaking out in their own home. They then live in a strange, large house belonging to a professor. They end up stepping through a wardrobe door and find themselves in the land of Narnia. Frozen in eternal winter, Narnia is a land of snow and pine forests, ruled by the terrible White Witch, who enslaves its creatures. There's then the intriguing story of how the brothers and sisters free Narnia while teaming up with friendly animals. This book contains different characters and unique relationships; those anyone would love.

Grades 6-8: Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, By Rick Riordan

This book is part of the very famous series: Percy Jacksons and the Olympians. Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, now a fantastic full motion picture, is a real pageturner. The story is as follows: Percy Jackson is about to be expelled from yet another boarding school. And that's the least of his troubles. Lately, mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life. And worse, he's angered a few of them. Zeus' master lightning bolt has been stolen, and Percy is the prime suspect. How does Percy prove his innocence? How does he find the lightning bolt? One must read to find out.



Grades 9-12: The Fault in Our Stars, By John Green



This is a book that is widely loved by adolescents around the world and was also on the New York Times Bestseller list for a significant amount of time. It follows the story of Hazel Lancaster, a 16-year-old battling stage-four thyroid cancer in a poignant, bitter-sweet manner. When she falls in love with a fellow sufferer, Gus, who she meets at a cancer support group, they decide to take a trip to Amsterdam to meet the author of their favourite book and fulfil Gus' last wish. What could easily be another bucket-list story is steered close to literary perfection through Green's exquisite blend of humour and tragedy renders. It is a must-read for high school students.

Independence Day History

On the 15th of August, we celebrated Independence Day. However, due to the pandemic, the celebrations were restricted. It fascinates me, thinking about life during those times of turmoil. Let's dive deeper. There are so many theories stating that the British starved the people of India, stole language from the oppressed, and many more. They did do good for the country as well, for instance, they introduced the railways in India. However, the cons outweighed the pros, which led to the Indian Independence Movement. This was a series of activities with the ultimate aim of ending the British rule in India. The movement spanned from 1857 to 1947. The first national-revolutionary movement for Indian independence emerged from Bengal. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was an Indian lawyer, anti-colonial nationalist, and political ethicist who began this protest. Mahatma Gandhi was established as the leader of the Indian independence movement. His belief in civil rights and non-violent struggle inspired a generation. Subhash Chandra Bose, Jawaharlal Nehru, Bhagat Singh, Jhansi Ki Raani, and thousands more patriots helped our country stand and reach where it is now. They worked hard and suffered consequences so that the generations after them wouldn't have to go through the same circumstances. This is a brief history of why the 15th of August is of such great importance and pride. I urge all our readers to observe a minute of silence to honour and commemorate those who lost their lives so we could have a better one.

Manav Modi
Grade 11

Flag Hoisting Ceremony

Over the years at GICLM we have celebrated Independence Day with great zeal and enthusiasm. Not only have we hoisted the flag, but also presented dances, short plays, and much more. Unfortunately this year, due to COVID-19, we were unable to acknowledge this day with such vigour. Instead, the school hosted a brief ceremonial hoisting of the flag in the morning, after which the national anthem and patriotic songs were sung. All those who wished to were permitted to attend this short, meaningful service.



My Internship Experience at SAS India

Right from the beginning of the quarantine period, I realized that I should indulge myself to be productive and prepare myself for the future, and I knew that there was no better time than the summer vacation to do so. Hence, I was proactive and wanted to do an internship.

The first thought I got, was to consult my father for guidance and he happily got me in touch with the SAS India Marketing team. I then had a call with the Marketing Specialist of SAS, Mrs Desere Pereira, wherein I told her about my interests, skills and internship goals.

Mrs Desere Pereira was gracious enough to explain the Marketing system of SAS and in the meantime, considering my interests and skills, she provided me the task to prepare a Standard Employee Re-entry Plan (i.e. SOPs) presentation and an animated video due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She gave me a brief explanation of the requirements and the expectations. I was extremely delighted by the challenge this task offered to me. I knew this was perfect for me, as I would gain immense knowledge, while building the project.

So, without further ado, I began to work on this project. I had all the required information and support from the SAS team. To build the project, I had used SAS Marketing Software tools with a combination of three different softwares to prepare the video. With dedication and hard work towards the assigned job, I successfully completed the presentation in the first two weeks and the animated video in next two weeks. Currently, the video is being projected on SAS India display screens across all locations in their India offices. They are also considering projecting it in other country offices of SAS.

This was a great leap for me towards achieving what I aspire to do in my future. I wish to thank my mentor Mrs Desere Pereira, and the SAS team who have trusted me, helped me and supported me throughout.

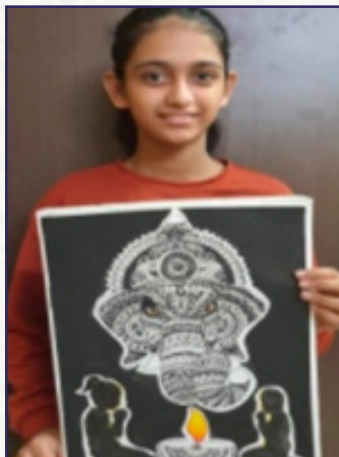
Shreyas Rao Katkooor
Grade 10



National Level Art Competiton

The Tirupati-based Sri Kalakshetra Artists Association held a virtual art contest in order to commemorate young artists across India. Entries were sent via email and other messaging forms.

Out of 4500+ compelling entries, GICLM is proud to say that students Soumya Kothari of Grade 7, and Pahal Thakkar and Neva Singla of Grade 9 were selected by the organisers to be part of the top 60 artworks and receive certificates. Congratulations!



Reflection of National Level Art Competition winners:

For the competition, I decided to choose the topic Krishna Janmashtami, as the festival was nearing. For my artwork, I felt like I needed to think out of the box and make something unique. So, I chose and was inspired by a traditional Indian art form called Kalamkari art. Though making my piece was time-taking, it was definitely worth it, especially because I won 19th place from all over India in my category!

Soumya Kothari (Grade 7)

Throughout the journey of making this art work a success, a lot of effort, hard work, and creative thought process was put in. This wouldn't have been possible without the help and guidance of our art teacher Mr. Amit Kawale. I personally really enjoy celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi and that is why I decided to go with this theme. I loved my first ever National Art competition experience and this gives me more inspiration to do even better in the future.

Pahal Thakkar (Grade 9)

I was quite excited at first because it was a national level competition. There were four topics to choose from, but as soon as I was told that one of the topics was Lord Krishna, I knew what my choice would be. At every stage I kept clicking a photo of my work and sending it so my art teacher, Mr. Amit, could give me feedback and advice. This painting was a long, four-day journey, but it was all worth it in the end.

Neva Singla (Grade 9)

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