

SURKHIYAN सुरखियां

**CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATIONS IN PRIMARY**

**CELEBRATING
OUR TEACHERS**

**ALL ABOUT
DINOSAURS IN NURSERY**



**CHRISTMAS PARTY
FOR SUPPORT STAFF**

**THE NOBEL PRIZE
TEACHER SUMMIT 2021**

**INKED ARTIST
FIRST AWARD**

Happy Holidays from GICLM

The month of December is always an exciting one in the yearly calendar, and with Christmas rapidly approaching, there is an increasing buzz of excitement in the air. Christmas is the festival of inspiring the spirit of sharing and caring, and with that in mind we launched the 'Food Grain Drive' which marked our 'Joy of Giving Week'. Members of our 'Garodia family' (staff, students, parents) were asked to donate rice and pulses. This proved to be a very successful event with the total weight of 558kg received. Well done to all! The food grains were then donated to 'Enrich Lives' NGO.

The appreciation of those that work silently in the background was also celebrated by our IBDP students, as they hosted a Christmas party for our support staff. This experience provided an invaluable opportunity, furthering the success of GICLM, and it was truly heart-warming to see our students' appreciation of those who work behind the scenes.

The Christmas fervour is also guaranteed to inspire wonderful learning themes. In K2, our young students were asked to think of a plethora of ideas related to objects, confectionaries and stories related to Christmas. The various illustrations they made indicate not only the fun they had, but how these activities serve to enhance their imagination, creativity, listening and communication skills.

We always take the time to recognise the achievements of our student body, but perhaps overlook those on our academic staff that serve to make this possible. In our Art and Design faculty, Mr Amit Kawale was awarded the 'Inked Artist First Award' for 2021 and invited to showcase his artwork at an exhibition hosted at the Taj Mahal Palace Gallery. In our Social Science faculty, Ms Fareen Qureshi was awarded 'Best Teacher who excelled in her field and contributed to Society' from the Nobel Prize Teacher Summit. The latter formed part of the 'Sweden-India Nobel Memorial Week 2021'. Congratulations to Mr Amit Kawale and Ms Fareen Qureshi from the GICLM community.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas break. Wherever you go and whatever you do, stay safe! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!



Mr Patrick Moore
Head of Secondary



Exploring Dinosaurs & Dinosaur Eggs

During our Arts Day, we started off by exploring stones! Nursery students and tutors also explored dinosaur eggs. The Tutor told the students that a long time ago, when dinosaurs lived, they laid eggs. The Tutor and students then discussed and made comments about dinosaur fossils. Students also learnt about palaeontologists and later they saw a short story on dinosaurs in the classroom. After our discussion, students painted their stones and designed them. They explored more about the dinosaur skeleton by building it in their classroom. It was an amazing experience for us to see the Nursery students working with friends. Have a look!

Nursery



Making Communication Devices!

In December, K1 students were introduced to the topic of technical devices. In order to explore this more, they examined different technologies that were used all the way from ancient days to modern times. Students also learned that communication is the process of exchanging words, signs, or information with others. Effective communication brings people together and closer. As a part of this lesson, children enjoyed activities where they made their very own carrier pigeons, mobile phones, telephones, laptops, mailboxes, radios and so on using various materials provided to them. Overall it was a fun and wonderful experience for all!

K1



Our Little Explorers



Children learn the best when they are involved in the learning. Hands-on science activities engage a child's senses and also encourages them to observe, experiment and predict. This month, K2 children got involved in simple science experiments related to air and wind which gave them a chance to make discoveries on their own. One of these was an experiment where they explored the properties of air and how it occupies space though means which we cannot see.

K2

Christmas Fervour

Our little ones were asked to think of various objects, confectionaries, themes and stories related to Christmas. They were also encouraged to describe Christmas symbols. Following their tutor's step-by-step instructions, they illustrated these ideas in their drawing books. Such activities enhance our young learners' vocabulary, imagination, creativity, listening skills and also enables them to express themselves more clearly and concisely. Have a look at a few of the illustrations they made!



Merry Christmas!

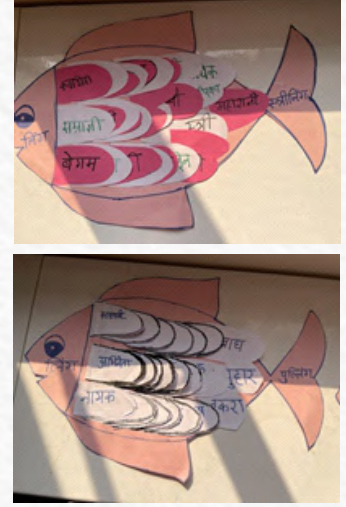
Christmas is the festival which inspires the spirit of sharing and caring. Soaking in the spirit of Christmas, our tiny tots of GICLM Early Years Department celebrated the festival with enthusiasm on December 22, 2021 in school.

First, the kids came to school beautifully dressed in red, white and green (Santa's favourite colours). The students and tutors then sang melodious carols and danced gracefully. Students also enjoyed creating different Christmas art and craft activities along with making chocolates for their friends and family members. The significance of the festival was explained to the students through a Christmas story. Indeed, the boundless joy of celebrating the occasion was visible on the faces of all our Early Years students!



Learning लिंग with a game !

लिंग (Ling), which means gender in English, is an essential grammar topic. However, learning it can get monotonous. Hence, Ms Sushma, our Hindi teacher, and the students of Grade 4 played a game in order to help learn the topic in a fun way. For this, Ms Sushma wrote some words on the board belonging to the two different genders स्त्रीलिंग (streeeling - feminine) and पुल्लिंग (pulling - masculine). Then, the students had to identify which gender the word belonged to and put it under the respective fish. This game helped our Primary students develop a clear understanding of लिंग (gender) in a playful manner.



Barbie Vora
Grade 6

Getting in the Christmas spirit!

With Christmas around the corner, Primary students at GICLM were all decked out and ready to celebrate the holiday in full spirit. For this holiday, students from Primary had the opportunity to participate in a variety of Christmas related activities to help kick-off the celebrations. First, they got their hands dirty with some festive art and crafts, danced and sang-along to carols in different languages, played some Christmas carnival games, got their faces tattooed, painted with festive stamps, enjoyed some holiday cartoons, and even wrote out their wish lists and letters to Santa. To conclude the year, Primary students ended with a magnificent last day of school that was spent decorating Christmas cakes with the help of our IB and Secondary students. Indeed, the students had a marvellous time being back together and thoroughly enjoyed each other's company during this year's Christmas celebration in class! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the Primary Department!

Ms Keshma Mehta
Primary Faculty



Ho...Ho...Ho...!

Christmas break! What a splendid time of the year to spend with your loved ones, which is exactly how I spent my Christmas this year. I went to Nasik with my parents and a few other relatives. On Christmas Eve, my family and I decorated the house, filling it with pomp and gaiety. We even decorated our Christmas tree with umpteen ornaments, lights, snowflakes and various other decorations topped off with an Engel (a Christmas angel in German). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, several people have lost their loved ones and have not had a chance to spend this festive season with them. Hence, I decided that I would spend time with my close family members and make the most of our time together. To top off the holiday, on Christmas Day, we cut into a scrumptious blueberry cheesecake, which I devoured! Merry Christmas!



Evaan Parekh
Grade 5



Origami Club

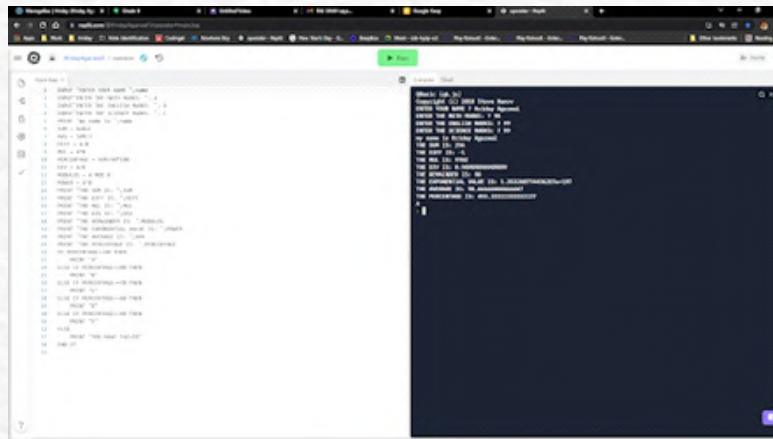
Believe it or not, origami is an amazing way to develop a number of skills that can be helpful to you in the classroom. In fact, origami is a subject in which you can create a variety of things and is an enjoyable activity where you can make use of recycled paper. Origami develops your motor skills, coordination and mental concentration. One of the best things about it; however, is that it teaches you how to be resilient. Take a look at some of the origami made by students of Grade 6 during the month of December!



Hriday Agarwal
Grade 6

Coding

Coding opens a limitless world of imagination where we learn how to tackle our problems. It can be taught on various platforms, but it's advised that young children first try 'Scratch', where block based coding is used. Block based coding is comparatively simpler because you just have to join blocks to create a code, then that code is applied to your design which makes a game. Coding is not just about joining blocks, but is also about understanding how things work and fit together. To make a certain game, you have to use logic to understand the workings of the code. Through coding, one can create costumes, backgrounds and characters entirely of their own design!



Hriday Agarwal
Grade 6

A German Christmas

Merry Christmas, everyone! To make this holiday season merrier, all the students from Grade 6 who learn German as a second language, made a magnificent advent calendar. An advent calendar helps countdown the days until Christmas, usually with a small gift that is revealed on each day. This December, everyone made their own unique calendars and had a lot of fun in the creative process. This activity was very interesting, as it helped us learn how people from all over the world spend their Christmas. Happy Holidays!



Vihaa Shah
Grade 6



A Special Christmas!

During Christmas, all of us look forward to getting awesome presents. We all are restless the previous night, wondering what gifts we will get. This year for Christmas, due to Covid-19, my family and I did not travel, but we still made it a point to celebrate the holidays! We dressed up in Christmas colours, decorated our house with lights, and put up our small Christmas tree. Whatever you do on the holidays — even if it is as small as eating an ice cream cone — it is still something special, and something that brings about the spirit of Christmas.

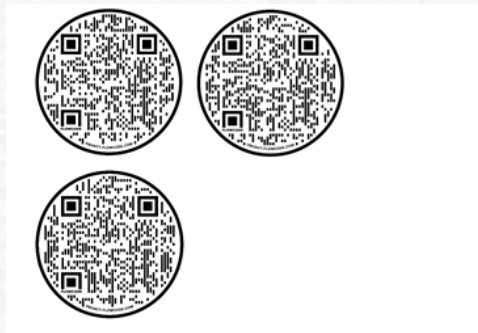
I gave my parents gifts this year. You can also be a Santa Claus to anyone by simply making them happy. Spending time with family during this time is most important, and this year my family and I baked cookies, watched a movie, met our friends and had an overall unforgettable time. Make your Christmas feel as special as you are!



Sreshta Kanakadandi
Grade 6

Animation through Stop Motion

Stop motion is a technique wherein the camera is repeatedly stopped and started, frame-by-frame, to give inanimate figures the impression of motion. Students of Grade 8 worked on their very own stop motions from scratch. We started off brainstorming video ideas that we would like to portray and made rough outlines that depicted our plans. Then, we started working on the characters and background that were a part of our stories through paper crafts. Next, we shot our videos by moving the characters slightly for each frame. Finally, we edited our work with the help of special effects to create the final products. This task was a perfect blend of numerous skills like drawing, photography and editing. Scan the codes below to see how some of the videos turned out!



Jia Sankhla
Grade 8

Snakes and Ladders or Monopoly?

Playing board games is a form of mental exercise. They engage brain areas that are involved in memory formation and complex mental processes. They also help develop critical cognitive abilities like decision-making, high-level strategic thinking and problem-solving. These skills are acquired in a stress-free, rigorous, but enjoyable setting. With this in mind, during the month of December, Grade 8 students designed board games based on one of history's most significant events: the Revolutionary War. Students gained a better understanding of the individuals and events of the American Revolution, realised how important events like this are interpreted differently by various people, and gained an understanding of the problems inherent in game development.



Ms Fareen Wahid
Social Science Teacher



Christmas Party for Support Staff

After finishing our exams, IBDP students were asked if we wanted to volunteer to organise a Christmas party for the non-teaching staff of GICLM. After an enthusiastic YES from all of us, we were divided into three groups which included: the food committee, the decorations committee and the games committee. I was a part of the food committee, and the first decision we made was to make sure that the food was fit for a party and also appealing to the staff we were catering for. The decorations committee was in charge of making the cafeteria look good and welcoming and was also responsible for the music, while the games committee had to design or find games that were suitable for everyone to play while taking into consideration COVID-19 protocols i.e. social distancing and wearing a mask at all times.

The party was conducted after school hours on the second to last working day before the Winter Break. We were given time in school to set up, prepare the food, blow up balloons, hang streamers, and get the mood up for the party to make sure it was a success. Once the party began at 3:30pm, everyone was engaged in entertaining the non-teaching staff members and making the environment comfortable for them. The event started with a welcome speech by two of our classmates: Aarya Salvi and Ishika Shah, and then progressed to the games and food. The games were competitive, and we had winners who received homemade cookies or chocolates as prizes. We were told to make sure we had gloves on for the cleanliness and safety of others. The party went on for about an hour and everyone gradually moved to the food stalls, as the games got tiring. The staff ate to their heart's content, and we were all feeling very grateful for being given this opportunity.

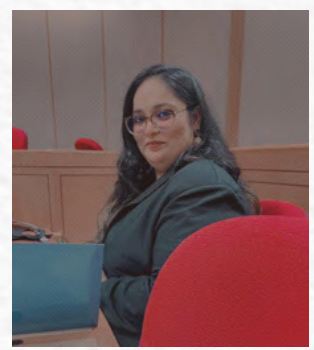
Later, we concluded the session by thanking all of the staff for what they have done, and what they continue to do for us and our safety. Then, we presented them with tokens of appreciation, which included a water bottle and a small message. After the gifts were given out, and since there was loud music playing in the background, everyone began to dance, and we managed to engage a lot of the support staff to dance with us too! The party ended at around 4:45pm and once our guests left, we rearranged the cafeteria, distributed the extra food, and cleared up the countertops. We made sure to get this done on our own, since we didn't want the support staff to work on their party day. All of us left school around 5:15pm that evening with a large smile on our faces, as we were proud of what we accomplished and did for the people who take care of us everyday!

Ananya Sudhir
Grade 12



The Nobel Prize Teacher Summit 2021

As part of the Sweden-India Nobel Memorial Week 2021, the Consulate General of Sweden, Mumbai, organised a 'Nobel Prize Teacher Summit' on December 7, 2021. The conference was India's first teacher summit by 'The Nobel Prize'. Forty teachers across Mumbai were invited to participate. The event took place in 'The Classroom' at The Taj Lands End, Mumbai. The summit's theme was 'In the Flood of Facts'. This theme provided educators with teaching strategies to navigate towards knowledge between scientific facts, personal values, and conspiracy theories. The hosts disseminated 'Nobel Teacher' material physically and digitally to all the attending teachers. This material was to spread awareness about the Nobel Prize, the summit, and the purpose of the theme among students. Thus, we were encouraged to start conversations proactively about disinformation and sharing ways to curb it before it ends up harming communities. The key takeaway was "Fill the void with hope and optimism!"



Ms Fareen Wahid
Humanities Teacher

Art Exhibition

Everything begins with a dream! All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them. I am an artist who has been part of the fine art industry for over a decade. I am also a passionate visual art educator and am proud to be working at GICLM. I am dedicated to inspiring students to explore and develop their own ideas and style. Nurturing young dreams and watching them grow to fruition is what excites me. My primary focus is in the field of contemporary art, as well as sculpting.

Like all artists, I had a dream of exhibiting my artwork at one of the best art galleries. I pursued my dream with a passion by working hard and thinking outside the box. Today, I am ecstatic to say that my dream came true! From December 11th to 14th, a group show was held at the Taj Art Gallery. Twelve artists from across India were given the opportunity to exhibit their artwork; I am both honoured and humbled to say that I was part of this very exhibition.

My work explores the relationship between the father and son. In this day and age that celebrates stay-at-home dads, we need to highlight the delicate emotional bond that fathers have with their children. In my artwork, I picked up specific moments in which I experienced the magic of selfless joy with my child, and tried to use them to explain how fatherhood changes a man.

I had an amazing experience and was delighted to see the wonderful responses from all the visitors. My students also visited the exhibition and had a chance to talk to all artists. Each artist curated the details of their artwork so carefully that it was a great learning experience for all attendees. Indeed, this added to their knowledge and understanding of how psychology impacts an artist's creative process and helps define their final artwork.

I am very thankful to all visitors from GICLM for attending my exhibition at the Taj Mahal Palace Art Gallery. It was a pleasure and honour to have had you visit my art show and I look forward to seeing you again soon!

Mr Amit Kawale
Visual Arts Faculty



INKed Artist First Award

INK Studio is a 'thought leader' in Art and Design education. Its mission attempts to create a unified platform for art enthusiasts – teachers, students, amateurs and professionals alike. This unified vision gave birth to INKed, which is a collaborative and professional development platform for art educators. I was selected by INKed and given the opportunity to participate in their workshop. INKed then selected our best art works and curated them to be showcased on a virtual platform they provided for us. In their desire to support the contribution by the community of art educators in our area, they established the prestigious title of 'Inked Artist First'.

Being an art educator and artist, my profile and work experience matched the criteria that the studio was looking for when choosing art professionals for this award. I am beyond honoured that the team at INKed felt that I was a deserving candidate for the Inked Artist First award 2021.



Mr Amit Kawale
Visual Arts Faculty

Christmas at GICLM!

Christmas is one of the jolliest times of the year at GICLM, so being able to celebrate it in-person with all our classmates was very exciting. The jingling of bells and the impeccably adorable, over-the-top decorations at every corner of the city indicates the onset of Christmas Eve, with lip-smacking cookies and incredible presents. This year, students of all grades celebrated the joyous festival by letting their creative juices flow. Every class performed different activities to get into the spirit of Christmas.

Cake decoration was one of the fun activities that were organised. Primary students were directed to bring in a sponge cake, while the IBDP and higher Secondary students brought embellishments like colourful frosting and sprinkles to make the sweets festive. Each Primary child was paired up with an older student, which was great for their teamwork skills. It was a wonderful sight to see everyone in the class with big smiles and the rooms echoing with laughter on the last day before the break.



The students from Grades 6-8 took part in a thrilling activity of 'bag decoration'. Students came up with umpteen creative ideas involving Christmas trees, lights, ornaments, and of course a glorious star on top. Then, they put their plans into action by decorating plain paper bags and transforming them into festive packs of glitter! This fruitful task brightened up all of the students' last day.



Embellishing the lunch tables of the cafeteria was what the students of Grades 9 and 10 did on their final day. Pairing themselves up with friends, they brainstormed interesting ideas on how to use their materials and make the plain tables christmassy. We only hope the teachers and staff present for the Christmas lunch enjoyed the glitter and balloons that were present next to their food.

Some of us also had the opportunity to come across the Head of School, Mr Ian Davies, dressed as Santa Claus. Overall, the Christmas celebration at GICLM can be declared a successful one. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our Garodia family!

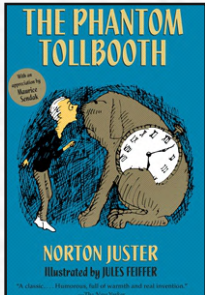
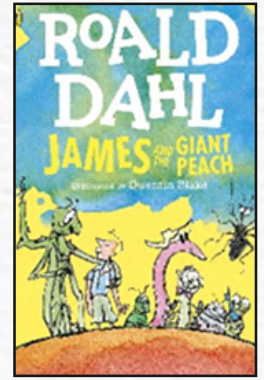
Riona Shah, Grade 6
Drisana Zaveri, Grade 8
Syed Maroof Alam, Grade 9
Riddhi Shobhavat, Grade 9

December Book Recommendations

Grades 1-3:

James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl -

James grows up in a house where all he gets is gloom with his miserable two aunts. When he gets a chance to get away, he forms a makeshift family with giant insects on top of a giant peach and faces several challenges to escape. The theme of *James and the Giant Peach* revolves around the idea that it's never too late to make friends. Even though James suffers the loss of his parents, he still yearns to make friends who care about him, and never gives up.



Grades 4-6:

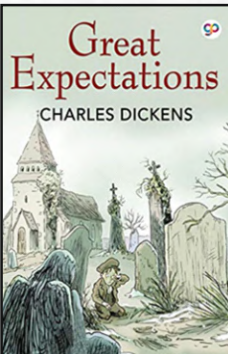
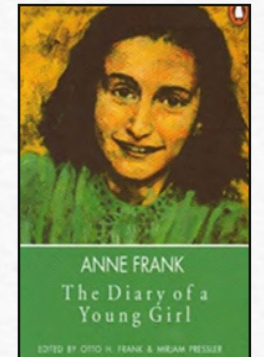
The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster -

The Phantom Tollbooth is a children's fantasy adventure novel. Milo is bored with everything and has nothing to do. However, one day a tollbooth unexpectedly appears in his room. When Milo goes into the tollbooth, he finds himself transported into another world which is far more interesting than his real life.

Grades 7-9:

Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank -

This book tells us about a young girl and her family that lives in Frankfurt, Germany and suddenly must go into hiding because of Hitler and the Nazi Party's treatment of Jews in Europe during the Second World War. They escape to Amsterdam where they go into hiding with other Jews. The diary ends suddenly on August 1, 1944, which invites a feeling of mystery in the reader.



Grades 10-12:

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens -

Great Expectations follows the childhood and young adult years of Pip, a blacksmith's apprentice in a country village. He suddenly comes into a large fortune (his great expectations) from a mysterious benefactor and moves to London where he enters high society. The theme behind *Great Expectations* tells us that affection, loyalty and conscience are more important than social advancement, wealth, and class.

Gitika Pariani
Grade 7

Chief Editors: Jia Suri and Jia Sankhla

Head of Photography: Aanya Patel

Section Heads: Kashti Dedhia, Riona Shah, Misha Shah, Dheemahi Udupa, Riddhi Shobhavat

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Engaging Minds, Changing Futures

At GICLM, we believe that education is all about the possibilities of curiosity, learning, discovery and achievement.

Join us to create
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