

# SURKHIYAN

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**Congratulations GICLM Graduates Class of 2019-2020**

**SLT LETTERS TO GRADUATES**

**GRADUATE MESSAGES**



**MESSAGES FROM HOUSE CAPTAINS /  
SPORTS CAPTAIN AND VICE - CAPTAINS**

**INTER - HOUSE  
MATHS QUIZ**

**ONLINE MUN**



'We are not human beings on a spiritual journey, we are spiritual beings on a human journey' Teilhard de Chardin

As Head of School it has been my immense pleasure to share that journey with this wonderful and most exciting group of young people. I always wonder how the next group of graduates will fare against previous years, and as always, you have managed to surpass and extend what others have done before. As inspiring role models within the school you have grown beyond the mere tedium of gaining top marks and made a significant impact on the lives of those less fortunate than yourselves. You have been exposed to an array of educational experiences that have enabled you to believe in the dignity of the individual, whatever their race, gender or creed. You have discovered that a concern for those who are disadvantaged also

reflects more about your own ethical standards giving you a moral platform with which you can approach the world in the future. Ultimately, you have gained the fortitude to tackle the challenges that lie ahead. It is the development of your heart and your soul that has been the important aspect of the last few years. No one can postulate what the world will be like in ten years, but I feel assured that you will all be leading the changes that make our lives far richer – and not just in economic terms. I do know that you are graduates who think with a conscience and use your heart, not just logic, to make important decisions. And it is this that sets you apart from any other graduates worldwide – I genuinely believe this. I would be proud to sit alongside any of you in the future and hear your stories whilst telling anyone who was in earshot that I was privileged to know you and share your life for such a short time.

IB graduates, I truly respect you for your endeavours, your warmth of personality and the care that you show towards others. Be very proud of yourselves. Indeed, I know that your families are as we are here at GICLM. I sincerely wish you all the very best. Go and inspire the world as you have inspired me. May all your dreams come true. My heart goes with you!

**Ian Davies**  
**Head of School**



Dear Graduates,

When you look back I am sure you must be thinking of all the moments when you thought “Oh, I could not do this”, or, “I wonder when I will complete all these tasks”, as well as some proud moments when you wanted to shout to the world “Yes! I have succeeded!” I hope all these experiences you had at school have prepared you to face challenges that you are likely to meet in the next lap of your student life.

I would like to quote Harold B. Merchant when he said, “Live your life each day as you would climb a mountain. An occasional glance towards the summit keeps the goal in mind, but many beautiful scenes are to be observed from each vantage point.” I am sure that life has even more wonderful things in store for you. My best wishes to you all for a bright future.

**Elza Eldo**  
**IBDP Coordinator**





# AARYA NAGRECHA



After my two years of IB in GICLM, one of the things that I will miss most is the events that took place all year round. There never seemed to be a boring moment in school. These events gave me the opportunity to interact with the students and teachers outside the academic aspects of school. One of my favourite events would be the Performing Arts Week. This event gave us a much needed break from studies and it brought all the house members closer than before as we got to experience and learn various new things together.

Another unforgettable memory of GICLM for me would have to be our psychology classes. Alongside learning, we were able to interact with our teacher, Ms Sakshi, in a manner that helped us become more comfortable with sharing and expressing ourselves. This allowed us to grow and improve from our mistakes without the added pressure that IB brings. I feel that Ms Sakshi especially helped us grow and become better throughout these two years. I feel like this kind of open communication between the student and teacher is important to have and I would advise our juniors to ensure they keep such good relations with their teachers too. While our teachers largely help us in our studies, they also impact how we grow as individuals.

This is simply one of the numerous things I will miss after leaving GICLM. My plans after leaving are to pursue a degree in filmmaking in Mumbai's film school **Whistling Woods International**. I'm hoping this helps me grow as a filmmaker and secure a position in the film industry.

GICLM has been a big part in helping me reach where I am today, and I am grateful for all the memories created and the people I was able to meet throughout this journey!





# ISHAN KUMAR

I would say that my fondest memory of school would be the preparation phase for the play “The Greatest Showman”. It was a break from the usual routine, so it was a welcome change. It was a new experience, as during concerts I was always a dancer, who came up on stage only twice: during my class dance and the finale. So, it was a really exciting experience, as I was a part of the cast and was helping out with the props.

The thing that I will miss the most about GICLM would be the classes with my friends. It was my friends that made those classes something memorable for me and learning together with them is what made my experience special. I strongly believe that Uma ma'am has strongly impacted my educational journey. She is one of the teachers who has been teaching me since Grade 5. She has been continuously encouraging me to strive to be better. Whenever I would feel worried or stressed out about my studies, she would give advice and do her best to help.

One of the extracurricular activities that I was involved in was the Christmas Talent Show. It was actually the first time that I had taken part in any such competition, so I was a bit nervous about what type of reception would I receive; however, to my luck, I received positive feedback and was able to win third prize. Another extracurricular activity that I am proud of is the Young Leaders Program in Australia. It was our IB coordinator, Elza ma'am, who had told us about it. I decided that I would take part and I was awarded a scholarship. It was truly an eventful week in Melbourne, where I got to meet so many different people, experience many different cultures, and learn a lot about myself. I wouldn't have been able to take part in such an event without the school's support and I am very grateful for being provided with such an opportunity.

One piece of advice that I would like to give to my younger peers is that they should not try to compare their performance with others to see who is better. It's more important for you to make sure in whatever you are doing, you are doing it well consistently.



My plans are to study Biology and either go into Biomedical Sciences or Marine Biology, as I have an interest in both fields. From there, I'm planning of getting into the field of research. I will be joining **Krea University, India**.

Lastly, I would just like to thank the school for guiding me throughout these two years and moulding me into the person I am today. I would like to thank all of my teachers for guiding me and helping me whenever I had trouble.





# KRISHI SONTHALIA



Coming back to Mumbai was a very tough decision for me; however, keeping in mind my further education, it was indeed important enough to do so. The only thought that came to me while I made this

decision was, 'If I have to come back, there is no better place than GICLM.' I was firm in my head that this is where I wanted to be. It was most definitely the best decision I made for a long time. Nothing is better than getting back with your old peers and teachers. I was thrilled to be back; however, in a new environment, ambience, and location. I have had several moments with my classmates and teachers that I can remember, and if I had to pick one favourite, I am not sure I could. I specifically enjoyed all my time in the Visual Arts Room, primarily because it is my favourite subject and an art room is all about expressing yourself freely. I can say that I spent most of the IB2 on the second floor in the art room, doing my work in a perfectly comfortable environment.

Leaving school, I will miss my friends and respected teachers. I have known a lot of the teachers since I was in Grade 4, and hence the bond we share is something which I will greatly miss. Apart from that, I will never forget all the fun we had during breaks, sports periods, and after school. All in all, this kind of school experience is something I will never have again, and I am glad I made these memories in GICLM, with people who mean so much to me. All the teachers, new and old, have been very close to me, and I guess I can proudly say that I never shared a relationship of dislike with any. Teachers like Mr Amit, Ms Smitha Sanu, Ms Monika, Ms Priya Mehta and Ms Rumana have taught me before and have known me for a very long time, and they have definitely impacted me as a person and student. New teachers like Ms Sheila, Mr Mark, and Ms Vishakha, have also indeed impacted me in many different ways. Ms Sheila specifically played a very important role for me in my second year of IBDP. I am most grateful for her constant help and the hard work she put in (even in the after-school hours) to help me complete my assignments. I

believe that I was lucky to have a teacher like her. Similarly, Mr Amit has always been my favourite teacher, again, mainly because of the subject and how he goes about teaching it. As art in IB is not all about theory, his way of teaching makes it very easy and fun for us. He too had been a very motivating and great mentor. Lastly, Ms Vishakha, my Spanish teacher, is hands down the coolest teacher I have ever had. We have had some really fun times in my Spanish classes where we would listen to Spanish music, watch movies, and discuss a lot about Spanish art and culture. Being the only student was a new experience for both of us and I most definitely loved it. She made me love the subject even more and I am glad I had the opportunity to learn with her.

I have known a lot my younger peers at GICLM for a while now, if not personally, I am sure I am aware of their names and their houses. What I would like to tell them is to follow their passion and be confident in what they do. It is completely okay to not have a clear future in front of you, well, I wouldn't even recommend you to plan the upcoming year, just go where your hobbies and passion take you. I myself decided my field of choice in the last month of Grade 11 which I will pursue at a **University in India**. I had around five options in my mind that all interested me, and trust me you will too come to a point where you won't know what you want too. The easiest thing to do then is to take your time, research, and talk to people you trust. Don't rush yourself, just do what you like, even if it doesn't sound like the smartest decision at the time. Cherish every minute no matter how long it may seem, have some late nights and some early mornings, and be true to what you do!





# MANAV ISRANI

With a plethora of memories and an abundance of learning, my two years at GICLM was nothing short of euphoric. Reflecting back over my two years at GICLM, I will miss the camaraderie that prevailed among the teachers and students and the feeling of unity while working towards the same goal of academic excellence. Although I exceptionally enjoyed my time at GICLM, my fondest memory revolves around the time when I was elected the captain of Prithvi House and was able to take up the responsibility of leading the house to success. With an amalgamation of support from my teachers and constant motivation from my peers, I was able to evolve as a person and was able to inculcate several positive characteristics.



Since teachers are the most integral asset of an academic institution, the teachers at GICLM not only encouraged me to perform exceptionally well academically, but also motivated me to remain focused and achieve my goals. For me, personally, the teacher who helped me the most and instilled in me qualities of perseverance, dedication, and focus was Ms Rumana Chatterjee. While being a role model, she also brought out the love for math in me which I plan to pursue in my future. After completing the IB Diploma, I will continue to pursue my love for math and major in computer science when I go to university.

Contemplating back upon my two years at GICLM, there are several aspects that I could have improved upon as a student, such as submitting assignments before the assigned time and always completing my homework, but this was definitely a great learning experience for me. Therefore, for the upcoming batches, I would give you one simple piece of advice: do not procrastinate! Since the IB is a very rigorous program, students often struggle to cope with the high demands, and therefore it is essential that students should minimize the work they put off until later.

Studying at GICLM was a phenomenal experience for me and I truly cherished every moment I spent in school. GICLM was indeed a stepping stone which I am sure will catapult me to success in the future while I pursue Computer Science at the **University of Ottawa**.





# MISHTI RAVESHIA



The two years I spent in GICLM have been absolutely lovely and I have had my share of laughter and fun. It's extremely difficult to choose a single favourite memory because so many good times come to mind. The opportunity to teach handball to children with Thalassaemia and HIV, the CAS trips, the workshops, and many more are all part of the long list of exciting activities that I've been involved in. However, if I have to choose, I think my favourite would be the Performing Arts Week during which we had our annual concert. From attending dance practices to having an amazing time with my house members, the entire experience has been a ride.

In these past two years I made friends with some wonderful people and formed new bonds that I don't think I will ever forget.

Apart from friends, I came across teachers that have helped me grow and pushed me to give my best. Whilst all the teachers have been great, there is one teacher with whom I connected with the most: Ms Sakshi. Psychology is my favourite subject and thus I naturally loved it, but what's important is that I loved the class as well. You may wonder how the subject and its class is any different. According to me, a subject is simply a branch of knowledge, but the way in which this knowledge is delivered, the environment created by the teacher, and the combined energy and efforts of the students and teacher is what forms a holistic class. Since day one, Ms Sakshi has always been enthusiastic in teaching us and has created a flexible space where I never felt pressured, scared, or anxious. She understood the struggles of an IB student and motivated me on my bad days, calmed me down in stressful times, and most importantly, always believed in me and my potential. I saw a friend, a teacher, and a guide in her, and I think the relationship I formed with her greatly impacted my educational journey.

To all my young peers reading this, I would like to say to forget the fights you have with your friends, the quarrels with teachers, the sadness of scoring bad, and the great stress of assignments (although a little is good!), and focus on making your experience and educational journey the best by always pushing yourself to give your best. Hence, in the future, when you look back, your mind will be flooded with memories of the happy school days instead of negative and gloomy ones.

I remember waking up every day and dreading getting out of bed to attend school, but now that it's over, I wish I could go back again because of the incredible time I've had. In these two years, I've made memories that will last a lifetime which I'll carry along with me to my university (**University of British Columbia at Vancouver**), where I'm intending to pursue Psychology as well.





# PREYANSH BHATIA

My greatest memory to treasure from GICLM would without a doubt have to be the school trips. Out of the three however it's difficult to choose one. We had an adventure trip, a filming trip, and our CAS trip which was a blend of creativity, activity and service, offering me a holistic learning experience on areas in India I never even knew existed and tribes who have lifestyles so rigorous I wouldn't last a week. The trips weren't in luxurious sites or places of great wonder, but the values from them are something I will carry with me in the future. They made me humble, calm, and accepting of everyone. To top it off the, never ending pranks and jam packed fun I had with my batch mates is something I will never forget.

The experiences I've had in GICLM are some of the best times of my life. I've gone through critical changes in not only my academics, but my attitude too. To sum it up, what I will miss the most in GICLM is



the CAS program. I've had life changing moments with various CAS experiences; it has given me a platform to be more than just a number on a piece of paper. Happy Feet Home – an NGO for children with Thalassaemia and HIV – had partnered with our school letting me teach the children the sport of handball, one which I excelled at in my time at GICLM. This made me realize many things about

not only being a teacher, but about being a better version of myself. I felt like I grew and learned just as much as I hoped the kids did from me.

While it is extremely difficult to give credit to only one teacher for my journey at GICLM a few mentions that immediately ran through my mind were Uma ma'am (German teacher), Sakshi ma'am (Psychology teacher), Priya ma'am and Sheila ma'am (English teacher). As for Uma ma'am, she was always the first to know or help me out with anything related to my dream of being a mechanical engineer. She truly got me one step closer to my career and made me more confident about my choices. Even though Sakshi ma'am never taught me in any formal subject, her support in my high school career as a counselor is worth a mention. Sheila ma'am joined our school quite near the end of our journey, but her wisdom and guidance were beneficial in not only for the betterment of my English, but also my university application letters and speech competition drafts. Additionally, Priya ma'am was also very helpful, giving me opportunities and an undeniably high

amount of assistance while organizing and executing CAS ideas that I would have.

Moving to extracurricular, I had a chance to represent my school in the Winchester Symposium, a conference held annually to discuss various topics with ten schools participating from ten countries. I even got a chance to act in my school plays, which is something I've dreamt of since I was a child. Furthermore, I hosted the Interschool Spelling Bee held by our school every year, an honor I am very thankful for. I was even on the handball team, since I have loved sports from a young age.



A word of advice that I have seem to come across and believed in is to always give your best, regardless of whether you end up at the top or not. Your regret of not trying at all will be worse than that of trying your best and failing. We all aren't the best at everything, nor do we have to be. Just focus on your strengths and not your weaknesses, as at the end of the day we all have our own story and our own battles. This is what I feel is most helpful in overcoming obstacles in life. It works wonders when you believe in yourself, and as Arthur Ashe said, "one important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation." As for myself in the future, I wish to go study my **Bachelors of Mechanical Engineering in Germany** and look forward to doing my masters there too.

To put it all together, I'd say my journey at GICLM has truly empowered me to evolve into a better person every day, constantly giving me challenges and preparing me for the world. I will never forget my time in GICLM and hope to comeback someday to revisit the memories I have made here!







# VEDANT PODDAR



I am Vedant Poddar and I was the part of the GICLM batch of 2020. The IB Board and GICLM have really shaped my life for the better. GICLM has helped me improve in all aspects and has led me to develop holistically. GICLM gave me some magnificent memories which I will remember forever. My fondest memories from GICLM are the CAS trips and the CAS experiences, which not only helped me bond with my friends, but also helped me develop my creativity as well as improving overall well-being by doing and learning about different activities.

The thing I will miss the most about GICLM is the unique and innovative style of learning I was constantly engaged in. I was never a fan of textbook

learning, but at GICLM, especially in IB, we always had discussions, wherein we would connect what we learned in classrooms to real life situations around us. Teachers would always encourage us to ask different questions, which help us understand each concept better. The teacher who impacted my education the most was our Economics teacher, Mrs Kshama Kulkarni, as along with the regular classroom knowledge, she would also give us knowledge about current world economic activities, which would further help me understand how our world works. She even used to clear my doubts of topics not in syllabus, which really helped me, as in the future I am going to pursue Economics at the **London School of Economics Mumbai Campus**. Another subject which I was fond of was Computers, and the school provided me with the opportunity to take part in Microsoft Specialist competitions. With the help and training I received at GICLM I was able to win at the National level and became India's champion in Excel 2016 program and represented India in the World Competition.



To my juniors, I would just like to say listen to teachers, ask as many questions, and take part in as many activities as possible so that you never miss an opportunity. GICLM has given me memories which I will truly never forget!





# RISA GANATRA

“Engaging Minds, Changing Future” has been engrained into my being since my very first day at GICLM. It goes without saying that I have experienced a tremendous transformation in these two years of doing the IB programme. The credit goes to the faculty who helped me sail throughout the journey. Although I have been a part of the GICLM family for the last two years, I have known most of these teachers for the past fifteen years since I was fortunate to be a part of Garodia Education from the beginning of my scholastic career.

I am highly obliged to the relentless and rigorous efforts by each and every faculty member working round the clock to ensure our growth with theirs. GICLM has always laid paramount importance to ingrain a holistic approach in their students. The enrichment at GICLM is very difficult to be penned in a few words. I have also enjoyed doing the CAS part of the IB course because each activity held a different meaningful purpose. An activity where a few fellow students collaborated with me to teach handball to students of Happy Feet Home, who are suffering from life-threatening diseases, inculcated a sense of gratitude, thanking The Almighty for my well-being. Also, the Leadership workshops by eminent parent body speakers in various fields were some of the most encouraging seminars that I have ever attended.

To **DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE**, and feel the **POWER** within you, which is part of the school song, has become the anthem of my life. It is something I would recommend my younger peers to believe in too!

As I take this journey forward, I plan to study **Business Management in Mumbai** itself, since I aim to take forward the legacy my family's business. I will truly miss being a part of the GICLM family.

Lastly I would like to mention the names of the five women who have impacted and been a very prominent entity in my growth — Mrs Mahalakshmi Anand, who has known me since my first steps in school. Ms Shivani Gupta, who has held my hand when I was all alone, never letting me feel lonely. Mrs Rumana Chatterjee, who has believed in me and made me change my belief about my own potential. Mrs Monika Koradia, who believed in my leadership potential, and finally, Mrs Kshama Kulkarni, who motivated me throughout to be best version of myself.





I have been a part of the Garodia Education community for around twelve years and my fondest memories have been in GICLM. I remember taking part in our annual concert which, in a way, was quite an invigorating experience. I loved every part of it, the preparation, the hours we spent dancing, and how it brought us closer to each other. I miss all of it, even the studies, because although it seemed stressful at the time, I know now it was good for me. However, I think what I'll miss the most is the environment of the school because it had a certain element of positivity to it.

Other than studies, we also had a wide range of extracurricular activities, which I think allowed us to blow off some steam and be healthy at the same time. In the IB Programme we had CAS trips as well, which were something I really loved. It was fun and educational, and given the chance, I would definitely do it again.

When it comes to academics, the teacher who really influenced me was Mrs Kshama Kulkarni. She taught me economics and was a dance teacher as well. She constantly inspired me and is someone I look up to. She taught me that my career and my passion could be the same thing and that is what made me want to continue studying economics in the future. This is why I plan to go to the UK, possibly to the **University of Warwick** to study economics.

One thing I would tell my younger peers is to always do their best. It is always better to do something you love and be efficient rather than do something half-heartedly. Overall, GICLM has really helped me grow and has been a very important and significant part of my life, and for that I will really miss it in the future.





# ZACHARIAH DARPELLI



GICLM is extremely diverse and helped me adapt to a variety of surroundings. My peers were extremely cooperative and helpful to me since I joined in the middle of the academic year. My most memorable experience would be the time we spent in CAS where we proudly contributed to society voluntarily during this academic year. For instance, when our school had organized an event for underprivileged children on the occasion of Children's Day, the activities were beautifully organized with the help of the students and teachers, and I was honored to be part of the atmosphere. Being part of CAS has helped us all look at things from a different perspective altogether. Another memory which would be hard to forget would be our trip to Bikaner where we made our own movie!

My teachers were very encouraging and pushed me towards achieving my goals. I would like the younger students to know that it is important that they work hard throughout their upcoming academic years and that they should approach their teachers for doubts or any problems without hesitation. I would also recommend that they focus on their extracurricular activities while simultaneously setting aside enough time to satisfy their own personal development. Doing this will definitely help develop a very important skill – time management – which will be really useful in the future. The younger students also need to believe in themselves more and put their 100% in the things they are doing. I believe when they trust themselves, there will be nothing to stop them!

Going forward, I will be attending **Bryant University** where I will be doing my bachelor's in digital marketing. I further intend to pursue digital marketing for luxury brands. It was a wonderful experience being a part GICLM's academic year of 2019-2020. I'm definitely going to miss everyone who was a part of it, and would like to thank all my teachers and fellow classmates who helped me throughout this unforgettable journey!



## ARYAN SHAH



Time flew by so fast, and my tenure as the Sports Captain has come to an end. Throughout this academic year, I have always felt honoured being the Sports Captain of GICLM. Being the Sports Captain for the second time in my life, I endeavoured to not only improve as a leader, but also as a person.

Coordinating with everyone for the organization of various events in the school has enhanced my interpersonal skills. I now know how certain people are to be approached and I also learned how to deal with them effectively for a common purpose. The most important skill I developed throughout my tenure was without a doubt, communication skills. The ability to articulate my ideas clearly and address the entire school was also a confidence booster. I really enjoyed the time when I got approval for my Volleyball Club and was able to meet the interests of all the volleyball enthusiasts. This was the first student run club at GICLM and it helped promote sports in our school.

My best memory as the Sports Captain was when I lead the oath taking ceremony. It was indeed a proud feeling. I would like to thank all the students and the teachers for their guided support and interest in the field of sports. A special thanks to the house captains and my vice-captain for their swift engagement and cooperation. It really made a lot of things easier for me and I feel all these events would not be possible without the constant support and guidance of the SLT.

## PARAM RAJESH KARIA

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” This famous quote was written by John Quincy Adams and throughout the year, it has motivated me to always be positive and fulfil all my duties. The prestigious role of being the vice-captain in the Sports Department has trained me to excel in the future and has prepared me for becoming a successful leader. Having the opportunity to become the school's vice sports captain has taught me to be more courageous, disciplined, and passionate. It has helped me make critical decisions and accept challenges.



Personally, for me, one of the most memorable events in school was the Sports Day. It was the most auspicious day of my life. Leading the houses during the March Past and holding the school flag was unforgettable. Apart from this, the consistent help received from peers and my teachers has contributed a lot towards my success in my role as vice-captain. Furthermore, a special thank you to all the house captains and the vice-captains for supporting and working with me throughout the year.

Being the Sports Vice-Captain increased my communication skills and taught me to be influential and optimistic in the future, for which I will be forever grateful.



## JEET SARVAIYA



Being the Jal House Captain was a life changing experience for me. Being a captain means you have many responsibilities within your house. It means you are a role model and many students look up to you.

For me this was a journey, a journey that opened my eyes and made me more responsible. Being that role model helped me set standards for myself that pushed my boundaries and helped me overcome various obstacles. This journey has taught me many things. Firstly, it taught me to be patient, as sometimes things don't come up the way you wanted them to. These situations taught me to be calm and composed. This leadership role also helped me be a better communicator. Communicating with house members was an issue in the start; however, as I grew into my role, the communication became much smoother.

The most memorable moment for me came recently when I stayed up all night with a house member to edit the video for the Singing and Acting Competition. This showed me how dedicated my team was and how motivated they were to put in their absolute best.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every Jal House member, as each of them taught me something new and helped me grow as a person. Each member of Jal House is amazing in their own way, and I wish them all a very successful time at GICLM ahead.

## SIDDHANT SHETH

Being the Vice-Captain of a House actually comes with a lot more duties and opportunities than I thought. It is surely a tough assignment to be pegged as an inspiration for the younger minds in our House. The experience for me being the Vice-Captain of Jal House was extremely thrilling and fantastic. Team-management, risk-taking, and decision making were a few of the skills we were taught during this academic year.

The most memorable event that happened this academic year was Jal House lifting the trophy for the Inter-House Cricket Tournament for two categories out of three. The primary category won the game with an easy shot, whereas the Secondary game was tough for us at the finals.

The opposing team had a few of the best players in the group, but one of our bowlers ducked out three of their best batsmen. This point turned the entire game around. They weren't able to chase the target set and we won the finals. This really made me proud to be the vice-captain of the winning house.

In the end, I would really like to thank every student from Grade 1 to Grade 12 for being such a supportive group and for all their contributions. Once again, thank you Jal House for allowing me the pleasure of serving as your Vice-Captain.



## SHREYAS KATKOOR



Being a house captain is a role filled with additional responsibilities. Being the captain of Prithvi House was a great story and journey in and of itself. As captain I was given higher representation along with many responsibilities. There were surely a lot of difficulties and barriers I needed to face during this amazing journey. Captaincy is not just wearing a blazer, as some people may think. It is leading the house properly, in every way, and for every competition. Captaincy has taught me a lot of things, which would have taken me a long time to figure out on my own. It has taught me that there are all kinds of people you might meet. Some might support you, and some might want to go against you, but you must always be cool and tackle such things with extreme calmness. As a captain, you also learn how to take the best decisions for the house and how to maintain the competitive spirit within every member.

My most memorable event as the captain of Prithvi House was during the Cricket Competition. The Cricket Competition was one such competition wherein a lot of hard work was required. The Cricket Competition was a rather tough time during my captaincy, as there were too many great players in the house from whom we had to select the best. Our team took a lot of time to be made for this reason, but ultimately all the hard work and effort behind the tournament paid off.

All in all, I really want to thank all the house members and the house teachers for electing me and trusting me throughout. We've all had great times throughout the year, and I hope all the dedication, passion, and hard work for the house continues into the future.

This was a great year in my journey here at GICLM with Prithvi House, one which I will never forget!

## KUSHAL DOSHI

First of all, I would like to say that it was an incredible opportunity to be nominated as a Vice-Captain. The post is not something that I took lightly. To begin, I started my tenure by socializing with every single senior and junior member of my house. Wherever I met my house members, I never forgot to chat and connect with them. Although I did campaign hard for the job of vice-captain, I believe that this ability to socialize and listen to my house members inspired them to choose me for this leadership position.

For me, it is hard to say which part of being vice-captain was my favourite, as every single event and occasion to meet as a house were the best for me. I really enjoyed being a leader and guiding everyone to become the best they could be. I learned a lot as vice-captain, especially how to be responsible with important tasks. As a result, we all had a great time competing at throughout the year in the Book Week Competition, Dance Competition, Sports Day, and many more. Even with the Maths Quiz and House Singing and Acting Competition moving online, every single member did a wonderful job pushing themselves to perform their best.

One highlight as Prithvi House Vice-Captain was definitely the Sports Day. This was because it was the most important, respected, and honourable day for all of the captains and vice-captains. The immense and awesome eight-hour event was a mixture of tense and fun-filled times, as Prithvi House was able to win quite a few medals. I also got to march ahead of my house while holding the school flag, which was a great honour for me indeed. I had other running and athletic accomplishments that day, but this is what mattered to me the most! I was thankful to all of my house members for giving me this essential position and proud of what we had accomplished as a team! Thank you once more to the great teachers and students of Prithvi House who made this year a memorable one for me as your vice-captain!



## TILAK MEHTA



“Leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders.” I understood this quote in 2018 when the former Vayu House Captain Ayush Chanda lit the spirit of captaincy in me. 2019, here I was standing on the stage before the whole of GICLM accepting responsibility for House Vayu and waving its flag holding up its motto of resilience.

Once I put on the extra layer of clothing (the captain's blazer) over my shoulder, it gave me a new set of responsibilities altogether, namely the responsibility of an extraordinarily talented house, and the responsibility of making theirs and my dream become one. Achieving this position made me feel exceptional and to live up to it I realized I had to do things which were exceptional for the team.

Sports Day 2020 still remains fresh in my head, as it was the day I had always waited for as a captain. It was the day that made me feel more nervous, tensed, and responsible than I ever had. It was the day where one wrong command would ruin our weeks of practice, and the dreams of us winning the Sports Day,

and most importantly the day where even a second of carelessness would ruin the most important races. I will never forget the way we climbed up the score board; how every one of us cheered for each other and how even the simplest words of motivation made us win races and trophies that we had almost lost. As the Sports Day was announced closed out, our team was filled with a mix of emotions. We were happy for the personal achievements that some of our teammates got, and at the same time sad that the Sports Trophy slipped out of our hand over just a few points.

Giving up wasn't a choice for us, we had to come back stronger than we did and fight for the battle of the House Shield. The best part about Vayu House has always been the positivity, specifically the spirit of not giving up and the hunger for victory. I would especially like to thank our vice-captain, Siddh Vora, for always having my back. Indeed, each house member has made this year very memorable for me.

## SIDDH VORA

I, Siddh Vora, am glad to share my great experiences serving as the Vice-Captain of Vayu House during the academic year 2019-2020. During my tenure as the Vice-Captain, I learnt that as a team — we trust each other, win together, lose together and always stay together!

Along with the position came responsibilities too. It meant a lot to me wearing the badge and being the flag bearer of Vayu House. It was an arduous task to constantly live-up to the expectations and hopes of all our house members. It was also quite a proud and difficult thing for us to have their trust, which was very easy to break it if we faltered in any aspect of our duty.

The responsibility of being the Vice-Captain trained me in a lot of interpersonal and management skills. Firstly, I learnt to have faith in everyone. Additionally, it required me to be a better team member and a proficient listener. The most memorable moment for me during the year was when we won the English Literature Quiz. It was my first Inter-House event as the vice-captain, and I was the one who represented Vayu from my grade on the stage.

Fond memories include being the flag bearer leading the house during the March Past, being a part of the Guard of Honour, and the recently nerve-racking Maths Quiz. I felt delighted for the smallest of wins and disappointed for every single loss, but we kept going steadily as a TEAM.

All in all, I would like to thank all my House teachers, my House Captain, and my team members for consistently guiding, co-operating, supporting, and believing in me. You have all made this the most memorable academic year of my school career so far.





## MANAV MODI



Another successful, invigorating and inevitably challenging year at GICLM is coming to an end. I've always been inspired by the captains I had previously had in school and I always wanted to be like them one day. At first, when this opportunity of being the captain of Agni House and a part of the student council came my way, I knew that I wanted to sign up; however, there was still a part of me that did not want to run for captain partly because I was afraid of the challenges it may pose, the fact that being captain would take away significant time from my academics, and most importantly whether or not I would be a fair, inspiring, and influential captain.

In the end, I must say that this has proved to be one of the best decisions of my life, as I have learnt some invaluable lessons along the way. One of the most prominent and obvious lessons is Leadership skills, and to my surprise, these were not the ones I had heard about in certain seminars or even in random YouTube videos. Certain things like getting individuals to do the task you want them to do, handling individuals with different levels of motivation and abilities,

and handling pressure and responsibility. From this experience I learned two very important things. First, the importance of accurate and rapid communication and second was the indispensable quality of dealing with failure.

One of the most memorable moments I had was leading Agni in winning the Sports Trophy and the March Past trophy with quite significant margins. Another memorable moment for me as a captain was when Agni house won the Dance Competition hosted at the beginning of the year. It was a completely unexpected win. Winning the first competition of the academic year brought our team closer together and was a great start for our house as we embarked on every other competition in the search for that same feeling of overwhelming satisfaction and joy.

## MISHA SHAH

“Leadership is not a position or a title, but an action and example.” In my growing years, I have seen and known many commoners turn into leaders, with purely a will and spirit to excel in their fields. These leaders have left a lasting impression on my mind. Leading by example has always been exciting for me. Becoming Vice-Captain, I was aware of the many responsibilities which would be bestowed upon me and I hope that I have justified my position to the best of my abilities. Succeeding in this endeavor meant the world to me. This journey has been wonderful with all the support of all my house members and the precious guidance from our esteemed mentors.

As the Agni House Vice-Captain, I have realized that the essence of leadership is influence, and not authority. I have always been a team-person, and keeping the group together and having them work harmoniously is indeed a big task, but a satisfying one. Furthermore, each house member is talented in their own ways, and each of them was willing to contribute to the house to the fullest. Our job as leaders was to unravel each member's potential to help lead the house towards victory.

The Sports Day was a rather memorable event. I could feel the team spirit our house showcased that day; cheering for one another; consoling fellow house mates when they weren't able to achieve as high as expected. The tug of war was another activity which left memories to cherish. We as a team strategized and applied strength, symbolizing our unity. During online activities, the Singing and Acting Competition surely left an impact. Every member gave the best of themselves, proving to be reliable and proactive, and we as a group came up with an excellent production.

In my tenure as a house vice-captain, I have evolved as a person; learning humility, values of friendship, and importance of team spirit. All our House teachers, and the captain have led the entire team with awe-inspiring leadership skills. The House members were extremely cooperative and given the right direction will indubitably continue to help Agni achieve greater heights. In the words of Henry Ford, “Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, but working together is success.”

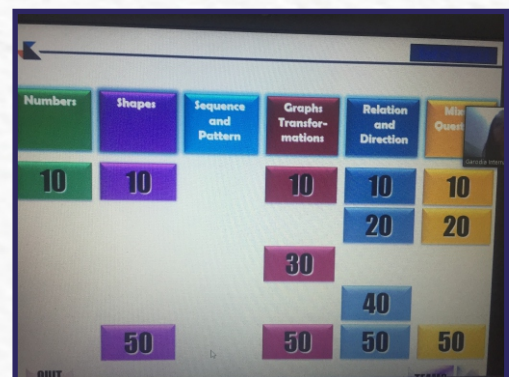
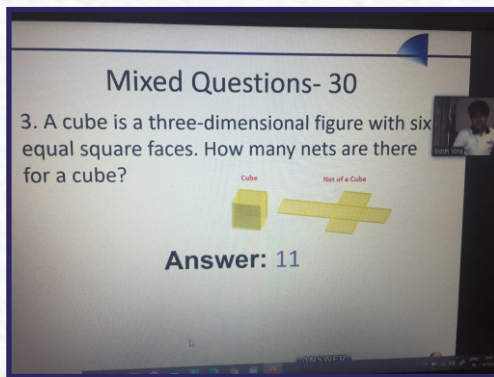
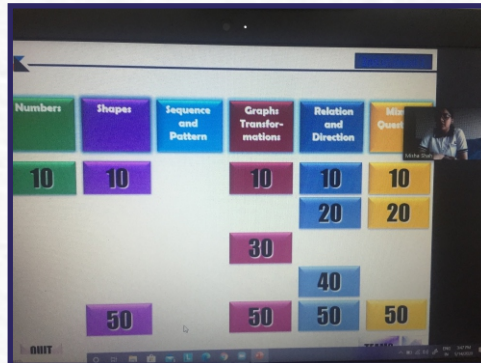
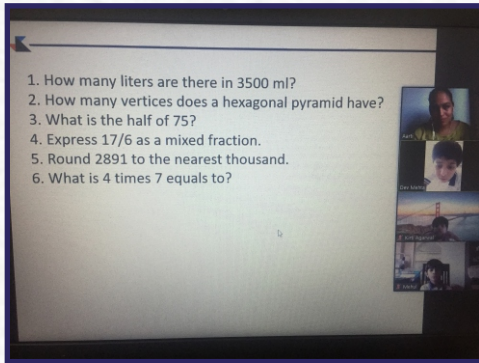


# INTER - HOUSE MATHS QUIZ



Although we are under a lockdown, GICLM has continued to engage its students in online learning as well as Inter-House activities. We recently conducted an Inter-House Math Quiz Competition for three age groups — Primary, Middle School and High School, via Zoom meeting. We had a special round for our Grade 1 students, as they were participating for the first time in a Math Quiz, and we could all see the proud feeling they had when they gave the right answers and fetched points for their house. We also had jeopardy and rapid fire rounds for our middle school and high school students.

It was interesting to see students discussing with their houses and giving answers in the set time limit. Our Math teachers also enjoyed putting together this quiz and conducting it online, which they said was a unique experience for them as well.



## FORMAL CAN BE FUN TOO ONLINE MUN

On the first weekend of May, I attended a vibrant online Model UN conference, the Estelar MUN. Model UNs are interactive conferences where students of all ages participate as delegates, journalists, and if well-experienced, the executive board too. They not only look impressive and fancy on CVs, but build up one's confidence, refine behaviour, and gives one as much knowledge as reading a new book.

I have done several MUNs in the past few years, and it has brought a lot of positive change to me as a person. During my earlier academic years, I was known for being an extremely shy kid, and I now look back and see myself as a completely different person today. This has also given me an edge when it comes to research based assignments, as research is the most essential element of a Model UN conference.

Most Model UNs offer a wide variety of committees, such as UNESCO, UNSC, WHO, or maybe even the IP; so students can pick a committee pertaining to their field of interest. The unique part of the Model UN I attended this month was that it was organised by students of all ages, the youngest OC member being in Grade 9. Despite knowing that the delegates and organisers were around the same age, we all addressed each other as "sir/ma'am", and communicated with each other in a formal and polite tone throughout the conference. This not only taught me to respect them, but influenced me to behave in a more respectful manner towards my peers at school too.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my teachers for supporting me when doing these conferences by helping me catch up with work I missed during extra training sessions and research for the MUN. All in all, I believe attending these kinds of conferences is a productive and interesting way to learn apart from daily academics.

**Aaryaa Chhabria**  
**Grade 9**

THE GUARDIAN

# “Even a world pandemic didn’t stop diplomats to demand Justice.”

## Laws being imposed?

AARYAA CHHABRIA  
2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2020

On the weekend of 2nd May 2020, a productive debate was conducted online, during the critical situation; when most countries were under lockdown. Delegates expressed their country’s stance on women rights. Many brutal practices and effective legislation were scrutinized and analyzed during committee.

During this crisis, with most citizens staying at home to keep themselves safe from the dangerous pandemic disease, many female citizens have not been living safely in abusive or violent families, thus increasing the rate of sexual and domestic violence. Due to several schools and firms working from home, (online), cyber harassment and online threat rates have been triggered too.

Several Nations have also established certain laws and adopted policies introduced by international organizations, such as the UDHR, Beijing Platform for action, and the criminal law act. However, not all countries have been able to implement them, thus not making much of a difference to the number of cases. One possible reason for the miscarriage of the implementation of these laws is that the number of women parts of significant decision-making bodies is eminently low. In order to overcome this drawback, the nations came up with having women quotas in such bodies, professions, and educational institutions.



Women Unite!



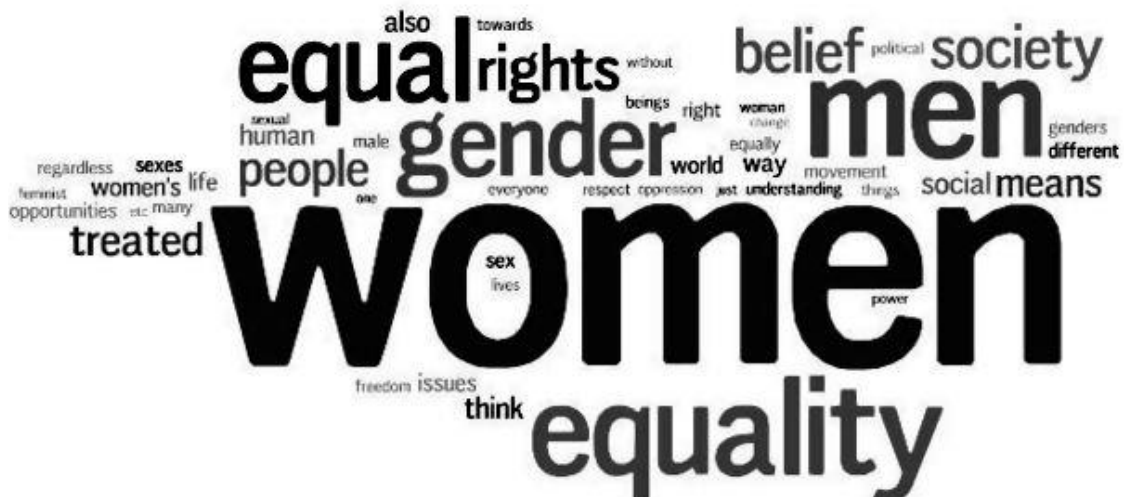
Educating the girl child

**“ONE POSSIBLE REASON FOR THE MISCARRIAGE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE LAWS IS THAT THE NUMBER OF WOMEN PART OF SIGNIFICANT DECISION-MAKING BODIES IS EMINENTLY LOW.”**

The issue of honor killing and genital mutilation was also addressed in committee. These practices usually take place as part of religious purposes, so declaring direct punishments on these could cause bigger problems, such as religious rallies and protests. Any short-term measures such as heavy fines and severe punishments, can lead to various religious conflicts, being a threat to citizens, lawmakers, and other members of the government. To overcome this, the committee came to a consensus to take long term measures such as educating young children about these practices, and their negative effects, so that the next generation doesn’t commit the same religious crimes such as the current generation.

As for sexual harassment all nations part of the UNW urge governments to extend sentences, and decide on more severe punishments. Certain countries also initiated improving conditions of women prisoners, creating organizations that support single mothers to manage families, and self-defense workshops. Older resolutions and consensus made in previous conferences were revised and reinforced, such as the Beijing platform of action, that emphasizes on educating the younger population and spreading more awareness amongst citizens. In all, the members of the conference came up with several potential solutions, despite the restrictions of not being able to conduct a debate where delegates are physically present.

**“...THAT EMPHASIZES ON EDUCATING THE YOUNGER POPULATION AND SPREADING MORE AWARENESS AMONGST CITIZENS...”**

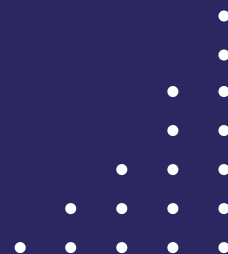




# Engaging Minds, Changing Futures

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