

# SURKHIYAN सुरखियां

THANKSGIVING  
CELEBRATIONS

SHAPING OUR  
ZOO ANIMALS IN PRIMARY

GRADE 9 BIOLOGY  
EXPERIMENTS

 **NO. 1** 

**International School**  
Zone C Mumbai

7th place in “Times of India  
Top 10 International Schools in Mumbai”



WELLNESS WEEK

HEXAGONAL THINKING  
IN IBDP

PRE EXTENDED  
ESSAY EXPERIENCE

# Number One School

It was a proud moment for our entire community when I was informed by the Times of India that our school was a significant award winner in their annual awards. This turned out to be the top position for the Number One school in Zone C and number Seven in Mumbai. Amazing! If we reflect for a minute, we have really only been a school for 3 years and COVID has hindered, but thankfully not stopped, our forward momentum. This is quite an achievement and speaking to other Heads, they indicated that schools would normally take over 10 years to make such an impact on education. On reflection, what do I put this down to? Quite simply it is the wonderful community of people that makes up GICLM. From our committed, bright and happy students who contribute in so many ways, to our hard working, highly regarded and trained teachers, from our support staff who put the school first, all the way to our parent body that constructively and positively adds to our school 'vibe'. It is a delight everyday to see our returning students laughing and simply enjoying being in each other's company once again. As a footnote, I applaud the wonderful Service activities that our students have continued to undertake in the community. This week again the Times of India in their 'World Volunteer Day' edition decided to showcase the projects and work of GICLM students as an example to follow. I hope you read the article and were as proud as I was.



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

So, where do we go from here? Experience tells us that strategic concepts and minute planning always get upset by events that happen, taking us into new directions. So, that is why we have an emphasis on being proactive along with knowing the direction that we are heading in terms of academic and community excellence where we appreciate every single student's story and the path they have chosen. We celebrate success in many fields and long may it continue. Who would have foreseen during our first few days, 3 years ago, that we would have had two incredible musicals in 'Beauty and the Beast' and 'The Greatest Showman' that people are still amazed by? Our ambitions are high and will remain so. Who knows what we will be celebrating in the future? It is up to us to continue making sure that it is memorable for all the right reasons. That is the challenge we have all set for ourselves.





## Storytelling in Nursery

"Today is a storytelling day, and we start an adventure in the land where fairy tales are true." Tutors narrated the story of Goldilocks and The Three Bears during an online session this month. Later, they had a discussion about the story characters and the tutor asked the students whether they knew any particular details about the characters from the story. Students also reenacted the story with the help of the finger puppets they made during the session!



Nursery

## Throw Kindness around like Confetti!



Children's Day is celebrated across the world on different days to honour children globally. Children develop compassion through acts of caring and kindness towards others, and as they grow, it can guide their actions and behaviours in positive ways. As a part of our Children's Day and Kindness Day celebrations, our K1 class was involved in an activity where they made a beautiful kindness flower pot that involved hand printing, cutting, sticking and finally writing what acts of kindness they will carry out! Take a look at their wonderful creations!

K1

## Robots and Coding

Coding is an essential set of instructions that a robot can read and execute. Our young minds of K2 got to know how a robot works during the month of November. They all loved drawing their own robots and were eager to share what special task they would want to code. Through this activity, children learnt about brainstorming and how a particular machine works. It also strengthened their imagination and critical thinking skills!



K2

## Children's Day in K2



As a part of our Children's Day activity, the little ones of K2 made a trifle dessert using their favourite honey bell cakes, some fruits and a little bit of flavoured milk. They really relished the fruit cake pudding! Children also enjoyed playing 'Housie' 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 our young learners' listening skills, visual discrimination and numerical skills.



# Happy Thanksgiving

There's something very special about taking the time to make a turkey craft with our young learners for Thanksgiving. Early Years Tutors helped the students express gratitude throughout Thanksgiving Day. Students also had a great time watching a video on the same, where they learnt and understood why Thanksgiving is celebrated. They all enjoyed working with their parents and tutors while doing craft activities.



# Shaping our Zoo Animals

The ability to accurately identify shapes is a foundational mathematical skill, and it is quite rewarding for children because their world is full of shapes. Understanding shapes will enable students to be more in tune to the world around them and see the connections between objects, as well as being better able to appreciate artistic works. Taking numbers off of paper and onto something students can touch and feel makes math significantly more relatable and understandable. It's about taking an integrative approach and mixing the tangible with the abstract to help students better grasp complex concepts. Therefore, during the month of November, our students of Grade 2 enjoyed using this approach to help them achieve the learning objective of identifying shapes, their properties, recognizing shapes in the environment and creating original works of art using basic 2D shapes! Take a look at some of their eye-catching work below!

Grade 2





# Grade 9 Biology Experiments

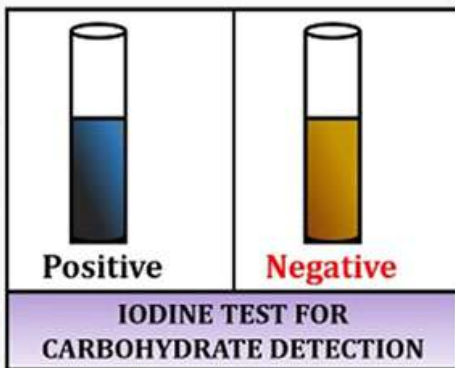
## Osmosis Practical

During the month of November, our students did an osmosis practical, wherein everyone was given three beakers that were each filled with solutions with sugar concentrations of 10%, 20% and 30% respectively. Then, they were told to cut three identical potato strips to put into the solutions. Students then recorded the time as soon as the strips were put into the solutions. After twenty minutes, the class noted down the results of the tests. They also made a table showing how the size of the potato strips had changed. For their final interpretation, students concluded that the more the sugar concentration in the solution, the more the size of the potato will decrease.



## Iodine (Starch) Test

In November, Grade 9 students also carried out an iodine starch test, during which they were given eight substances to test for the presence of starch. Items that were given to them included: an iodine solution, test tubes and a petri dish. The food samples that were used included potato chips, potatoes, bread, a sugar solution, milk powder, glucose-D, polysaccharide, and honey. Once all the materials were in place, students tested each of the products to find whether they contained starch. They then made a table of the tests which helped them to conclude that only the potato chips, potato and bread had starch present in them, while other food samples had only some blue-black particles present. This was a great learning experience that helped our students link the theory we learnt in class to real life scientific applications!



**Hiya Ghelani**  
Grade 9

## Amazing Math Workshop!

Math is my favourite subject, and I love to try new concepts and problems based on the same. Recently, I took part in a contest called ROOTS, which was suggested by my school math teacher. This contest helped the participants and me engage in topics ranging from algebra and geometry to binary. I had a lot of fun taking part! After about two weeks, the results were out and I was in the top 50 from all over India! This made me feel exhilarated! As I was in the top 50, I got an opportunity to take part in a workshop where teachers from all over the country taught easy and fun ways to analyse a mathematical problem as well as many other interesting concepts. It was an amazing experience indulging in the workshop and working with people from across the country.

**Dev Mehta**  
Grade 7

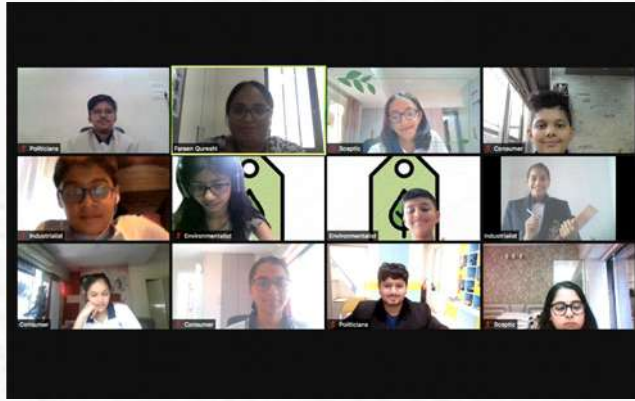


# Views on Climate Change

While learning about climate change, the students of Grade 7 got an opportunity to learn about and act as all types of people in our society, including: Consumers, Environmentalists, Industrialists, Sceptics and Politicians. Everyone in class first researched climate change and understood that it's a very alarming problem. While researching, everyone had to keep their roles in mind, so that they could justify what these different groups of people would say.

To talk about everyone's opinion, we had a debate where each person justified their points in Round One. In Round Two, everyone made counterarguments to whoever went against them, and announced who they were supporting. In the last and Final Round, all the groups came to one final conclusion regarding whether or not climate change exists. All in all, it was an amazing way to learn about everyone's perspective concerning climate change while having fun!

**Dev Mehta**  
**Grade 7**



# Potato Mountain Modeling and Cereal Contour Islands

Understanding contour lines and interpreting them on a map is critical to route planning. The 'Potato Mountain Modeling' activity in Geography class this month taught us how to read contours and slopes. We were asked to cut potatoes in half, dot the potato at 1 cm intervals, form squiggles, count 1 cm intervals from their first contour to the potato's summit, trace the potato's bottom on paper and draw each contour line from a 2D perspective. After we completed this, we were instructed to examine the model and respond to some questions. We concluded by creating a contour island out of cereal boxes/cardboard paper, which aided our comprehension of geographical landforms and the relief of our models.

**Sreshta Kanakadandi**  
**Grade 6**





## Using ‘Hexagonal Thinking’ for Long-Term Learning

Hexagonal thinking is a strategy for retrieving and connecting information. In this subtopic on ‘The Great Depression in Canada’, the goal was for students in Grade 11 to make broad generalizations about related ideas and terms provided. Students were presented with relevant theories, concepts, and words, and they were asked to make connections as well as explain why and how they did so. Although there was no right or wrong answer, students were allowed to justify and explain their thoughts, which prompted an insightful discussion that resulted in a “reshuffling” of the hexagons to find a new way of connecting them. Below you will find brief reflections from two students involved in this activity.

**Agrita Srivastava IBDP Grade 11** - The hexagonal activity was enjoyable when it came to assessing our knowledge on a particular subject. To make connections between the various hexagons, we needed to first ensure that we were thoroughly familiar with the corresponding concepts. Personally, I lost track of the events and became confused. However, I doubt I will ever do so again after this activity, as I re-read all the topics and constructed the figure along the way, making it infinitely more memorable. I’ve decided that in the future when writing exams or tests, I’ll simply refer to a simple hexagonal connection chart to help me remember all the critical points and how they all relate to one another. I believe this will also help me better comprehend the chronology.

**Samridhhi Saha IBDP Grade 11** - The hexagonal activity was very helpful for me, especially when it comes to remembering all the concepts I’ve learned in class. It also helped bring out the creative artist in me, and I felt intrigued and interested in editing the slides along with providing my own thoughts and explanations. It was a very creative, artistic, and expressive activity. For me, this is a guaranteed method to store all the concepts I need to remember into a more understandable frame!



## Pre-EE Experience

Any 11th grader who hears the words “Extended Essay” gets a cold sweat down their spine. It was nothing but a sea of confusion mixed with fear until our teachers explained it to us in an easy manner so we could fully understand and enjoy this process. As the saying goes, “understanding a problem is half the solution”. That is what we learned from our Extended Essay teacher, Ms Vidya Rao, when she gave an orientation and explained how the essay works, the rules, and the process. We were immediately put at ease. By understanding the EE itself, we were able to break many chains that had been holding us back. In addition to this, to help us feel more comfortable and familiar with the Extended Essay, each of our subject teachers gave us a separate EE orientation that covered all the components, details, requirements, and evaluation criteria.

Having done this, we were able to clear our confusion and move on to the next step — choosing a subject for our Extended Essay. This was the most critical decision of our journey thus far in IBDP. Therefore, to assist us in making this critical decision, our teachers organized an interactive session with our Seniors to help clarify our doubts. Grade 12 students shared their experience and the challenges they faced. This interaction definitely helped navigate us to make the best decisions.

Not only are we now prepared and excited about our subject choices, but we are also looking forward to embarking on this new journey and adding it to our growing collection of experiences. We hope to challenge ourselves and grow through this process!

**Anugraha S N**  
**Grade 11**





## Parents on a Coffee Spree

On 17th November, as a part of our GICLM Wellness Week, our Visual Arts teacher, Mr Amit Kawale, conducted a special Art Therapy Workshop in the form of coffee painting. Parents at first understood the concept of Art Therapy and created their artwork using coffee powder. The aroma of coffee alone helped them get their creative juices flowing, and in the end, they created two pieces of artwork each.

In the first one, they created different values of coffee on the palate and also made a majestic mountain range scenery. While creating this work, they began to understand the nuances and techniques of coffee painting. Gradually, parents used this experience in the second artwork and painted an advanced coffee painting piece using references.

In fact, while creating their art, parents also sipped on delicious coffee, which acted as a dual force of inspiration. Overall, it was a fulfilling experience for our parents as they thoroughly enjoyed their coffee spree and went back home with happy smiles and renewed vigor.

**Amit Kawale**  
**Visual Arts Faculty**



## Wellness Week — Art Therapy

From 15th November to 18th November, we at GICLM celebrated the much-awaited Wellness Week. As part of this week, Ms Amreeta, Ms Swarnima, Ms Jaspal, and Mr Amit facilitated a mindful Art Therapy session for Grades 8 to 12.

It was a really thoughtful session, where students created artwork that shed light on their concept of identity and self-awareness. It started off with a heart-touching audio visual show of how art therapy helped an elderly lady get back to living her life with zest. This was followed by a discussion on how art therapy can help students in their daily lives to develop, focus, and relax their over-stimulated minds through a non-verbal medium of expression. A relaxing guided meditation visualization was then conducted by our School Counselor.

Overall, it was a memorable session for all students and teachers, where they explored their own thoughts and expressed their feelings using paper and different art mediums. It was indeed refreshing to see students creating art for the sake of it, and not for perfection or competition; the blank canvases were filled with abstract and colourful versions of themselves.



**Amit Kawale**  
**Visual Arts Faculty**



## Yoga and Dance — Wellness Week

This year, as part of our Wellness Week program, students came together and indulged in fun activities such as yoga and dance! Both of these were very effective and helped students achieve a better state of mind. Yoga improved strength, balance and flexibility, whilst dancing encouraged good posture, body awareness and control. Mental Health Week celebrates uniqueness, encourages students to be open about their feelings, and helps everybody be more empathetic towards others!

**Drisana Zaveri**  
**Grade 8**



## Small Games — Wellness Week

During the month of November, GICLM organized different activities towards the end of the school day, from Monday to Friday (1:30 to 2:30). The students were divided into House groups and took part in different activities like Yoga, Dance, Art and Games.

One of my favorite activities was the session involving the games! To start off, someone from our House group had to pick a piece of paper that had a word written on it. They then had to try and draw this word on a whiteboard, after which the rest of the team had to guess the word. This was followed by an activity where we had to sell an item which was randomly selected by our teachers. We made jingles, catchy slogans, and an impressive presentation. The atmosphere was very competitive, and I am sure everyone had a blast!

**Syed Maroof**  
**Grade 9**



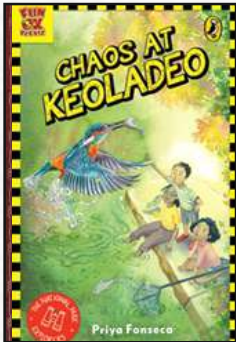
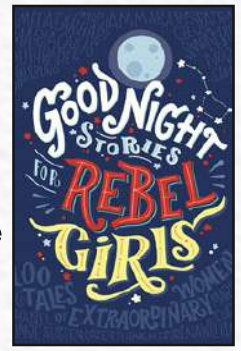


# November Book Recommendations

**Grades 1-3**

**Good Night Stories For Rebel Girls – Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo**

This story shares the tales of 100 inspiring, rebellious women who were determined to not let their gender change their identity.



**Grades 4-5**

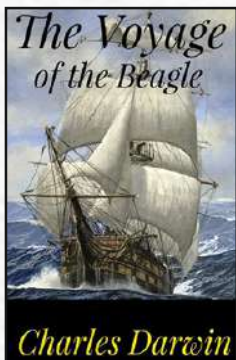
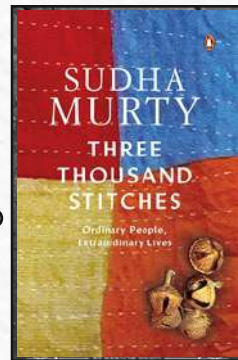
**Chaos at Keoladeo – Priya Fonseca**

*Chaos at Keoladeo* is an exciting book that lets you explore all that the jungle has to offer with some of your explorer friends: Ameera, Alex and Tarun!

**Grade 6-8**

**Three Thousand Stitches – Sudha Murty**

This beautifully-written book contains many extraordinary incidents that happened to ordinary people throughout Sudha Murty's life.



**Grades 9-10**

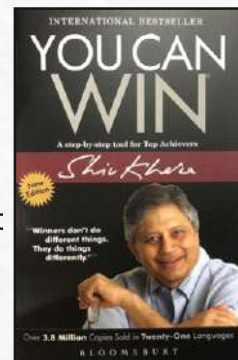
**The Voyage Of the Beagle – Charles Darwin**

This book was written by Charles Darwin and published in 1839 as his Journal and Remarks. It serves as an account of the major events in his voyage, as well as his hypotheses on certain scientific phenomena!

**Grade 11-12**

**You Can Win – Shiv Khera**

This book helps you empower yourself and grow exponentially. It's a practical guide that will help you build confidence by mastering the seven steps to positive thinking.



**Vihaa Shah  
Riona Shah  
Grade 6**

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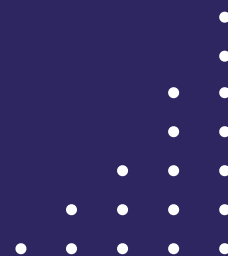




# Engaging Minds, Changing Futures

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

Join us to create  
endless possibilities  
for your child's education



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