GICLM Magazine for the month of March 2020



# SURKHIY AN Sylvetain

HEALTH AWARENESS
WEEK

FRENCH REVOLUTION
DIORAMA PROJECT

ONLINE LEARNING
ACTIVITIES



IGCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE PADLET WRITING EXERCISE

PRIMARY IPC
LEGO INTEGRATION

IB MATHS ONLINE FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT



Dear GICLM Community,

It would not be an understatement to say that this has been a very different month, with all of us having to make significant changes to our lifestyles. In such a short time the world as we known it has changed overnight and it would be correct to say it will never be quit the same once this Pandemic is over. It's interesting to see that in the midst of all this heartache that nature seems to be pressing the 'global reset button' with claims that dolphins are reclaiming the canals of Italy, quite rare animal species seen on the streets of cities and quite tangible falls in the level of atmospheric pollution.

A colleague of mine in Jakarta remarked last week that she has only just noticed that the city is surrounded by mountains, with such a dramatic decline in smog levels she can actually see them In the midst of all this uncertainty, the one thing that we can draw comfort from is in our GICLM community. The way in which teachers, parents, and students have supported each other over the past three weeks has been commendable. I am particularly very proud of the way all teachers have risen to maintaining the challenge of providing high quality, creative learning through the online platform. The Grade 5, 8 10 and 12 Mock Examination took place as timetabled with all scripts marked and feedback given and Mock reports subsequently issued. I congratulate the students in the way they have all embraced the learning, it is not an easy task to assimilate to a new learning environment or methodology overnight.

I am sure we are all looking forward to return to a semblance of normality. Keeping the monthly issue of 'Surkhiya' is a reflection of our desire to do so. This month's edition gives a flavor of the range of exciting learning activities carried out during our online sessions.

Please take care of yourselves and hopefully we will see each other soon.

If you work hard and get help from good friends, together you can overcome almost any challenge, no matter how great.

- Mike Massimino, Columbia Professor and NASA Astronaut.

- Mr Patrick Moore Head of Secondary



### **EARLY YEARS**

#### **Animal Walks for Sensory Input!**

Animal walks are simple and fun exercises which children love to do and which also work as a quick dose of gross motor play in their daily schedule. It's a fun activity which encourages creativity, develops gross motor skills, and hand-eye coordination.

Here's a sneak peek into our Nursery class e-learning session!





#### **Passion for Fashion!**

Our little designers worked so hard on the project which was assigned to them by their nursery tutors.

It's so much fun to see the parent-child duo creating things together!

Here's our Nursery kids getting creative in the most colourful of ways...







#### In House Activities

The learning continues...

With the lockdown

There is no need to frown

We have lots of activities in store

With children asking for more...

Stay home Stay safe....

With this being followed everywhere, during the last fortnight of March children of K1 were kept engaged and enthralled with a lot of activities at home whether it be language arts, math, science, creativity, knowledge based, sensory, or non-fire cooking.

Our little ones of K1 became master chefs as they made yummy, healthy salad with their tutor's guidance. Children learnt from science based activities where they mixed colours to create a new colour. We are so happy that children are enjoying and learning at the same time while also completing their math and language assignments sent to them.

It was also family time where one could even see parents participating, getting involved, and enjoying some fun filled activities. Kudos to all parents for their involvement in keeping the learning going...







#### Keeping the learning going in K2

Watching seeds grow is an amazing science lesson for children.

During the month of March, our little ones of K2 got the opportunity to see how a seed grows into a plant. Sowing the seeds, watering the plant, and checking on the progress each day gave students the hands-on experience of observing the process of germination.

This science experiment helped children understand that a seed requires certain things to grow such as soil, sunlight, and water.

It was also great to see our K2 children attempting a variety of challenging activities at home such as origami, independent drawing techniques, and P.E. skills using a ball, thus enhancing their concentration, creativity, as well as their fine and gross motor skills.

We were delighted to see our children diligently doing their assigned tasks and becoming independent readers and writers!



#### **Electrified Grade I**

For the ongoing IPC unit 'It's Shocking', the students of Grade 1 visited the laboratory for a hands-on experience with electrical circuits. During this engaging session, the students learned about the open circuit and closed circuit, as well as the various components required to make a circuit. They were all very inquisitive and super excited to see the electric bulb glowing.







#### **Feel The Force**

Without forces to push and pull us along, nothing on Earth or in the wider Universe would move. Over the past month, students from Grades 2 and 3 learnt about different forces from magnetic, gravitational frictional, drag, aerodynamics and buoyancy in their IPC unit, "Feel the Force". Together they learnt about the importance of each of these forces and how they should work through scientific enquiry and investigations conducted to understand the different concepts including testing airplanes, lifting ice, etc. Students also had the opportunity to integrate LEGO to explore and familiarize themselves with some of the concepts.

Experimenting with WeDO2.0 provided students with a unique opportunity to build a robot using LEGO program it with IPads, and evaluate the outcome of the different forces. Once their robots were built, students were challenged in their teams to think of ways to reduce friction and allow their robots to travel the furthest distance! Students were highly excited to create, collaborate, and investigate how their programming and choice of materials (LEGO) could impact their overall outcome. Not only did the learn about different forces upon building this model, but they also learnt to apply problem solving skill to find the perfect solutions to overcome the obstacles applicable to real life! Take a look at our studen in action!







#### Learning German Online through Song and Dance

"Even if we are stuck at home, our learning won't stop."
In their online German class this month, students of Grade 1 learnt the German names for 'Parts of the Body'. They also learnt a poem about parts of the body which was sung in the German language.

The aim of this activity was to familiarize them with the new vocabulary words and allow them to freely express themselves through song and dance. Students really enjoyed learning about the body through songs while moving their bodies at the same time.





- Grade I

#### **Learning Through Imagination**

Imagination is a wonderful tool that can enhance creativity and produce out of the box results. Imagination carries us to the worlds that we have never been to. It was a unique integration of imagination in Math and Geography classes that led to the creation of something interesting in the current unit of IPC called "Earth as an Island". Students of Grade 4 made their own "imaginary island" using a new concept of Geography called "eastings" and "northings". Each student made a quiz on his/her imaginary island to help others understand the location of the particular place on a grid using coordinates which involved Geometry.

This activity was aimed at achieving learning goals such as mapping skills, locating a place on the map using grid references, and mathematical skills of using coordinates to understand the position of a particular place on the grid.















#### The Story of English

For their IPC unit, "The Story of English", the art learning goals were kept central to planning, providing a exciting and stimulating experience.

Students were asked to design a modern book cover and an illuminated manuscript. The children produced some great work demonstrating an understanding of personal and historical contexts that influence artistic areas.

To encourage creativity in the collaborative process, students were also asked to present some of Shakespeare's short plays. The students were able to analyze and interpret texts and performances both writing and orally.

This helped students develop some basic skills in theatre arts and also appreciate Shakespeare's work.









#### **Interactive Online Art**

During the month of March, through interactive online art classes, students of Grade 8 learnt and understood the concept of doodle art. Classes facilitated by our art teacher, Mr Amit Kawale, gave students the background knowledge they needed to apply their learning independently.

For the project students completed, they researched the difficulties that governments, communities, and the health care systems are facing and what could be the possible solutions. The great ideas as you can see were the result of a rigorous research process. Additionally, the idea of becoming a googlobal citizen in these difficult times became the focal point of our student's artwork.













#### **Posters on NUMBER FACTS**

Grade 9 Additional Mathematics students recently completed a research based activity where they were asked to make a poster. To begin, the teacher gave three topics related to numbers, which were mostly not discussed in regular curriculum. These topics were nonetheless very interesting for mathematics students and enabled them to play with numbers and their relationships. Students also had a chance to choose the topic which they want to do.

The posters were the end product of their research which they completed on Microsoft Word documents. Besides knowing the mathematical facts, students also explored and developed their technological skills as well as research skills.

This extra knowledge will help them to write Math Exploration in their future in the IBDP program. Let's hear what our students had to say about the activity.

Anirudh (Grade 9) - It was very interesting and engrossing, and I really enjoyed making the table about Goldbach's Conjecture, as I learnt something new.

Piyush (Grade 9) - Prime triplets and twin primes were a really new topic for me. These topics really helped me explore the world of mathematics related to prime numbers.







#### Recreating the 'French Revolution' the Diorama way!

Sitting in front of the screen can be tasking for students, especially when they have to depend on online classes now for learning and when their choice of recreational activity is centered around technology. We need to acquaint them with other recreational activities, and project work is one such tool which definitely comes to the rescue.

For our History class, our 8th graders got a chance to recreate the major events from the French Revolution by making a Diorama of those events.

Events that were popular were:

- 1) Storming of the Bastille
- 2) Women's March on Versailles (the one demanding bread)
- 3) King Louis VI's, Queen Marie Antoinette's or Robespierre's execution at the Guillotine

A Diorama is a 3D representation created using waste shoeboxes or other craft materials. With little resources available at home, our kids got creative and ended up using toys as figures, ice cream sticks and spoons, clay or wheat flour and even Lego pieces to create objects. Some students went on to make working models of the 'Guillotine', the famous execution machine of the French.

The most important factor was the participation of the family members, and our parent community indee worked hard to ensure that they made it a memorable learning experience for our students by working alongside them on the project. It thus became a family project which helped students connect with their families and instilled the importance of teamwork.







#### Rap Song Fever!

Who says History lessons have to be monotonous and dry? We can learn about dates, events, and personalities in different ways and can make the lessons engaging ourselves.

As we the students of GICLM Grade 8 were studying about 'The American Revolution' in History class, we were also looking forward to doing a fun activity which would incorporate elements of The American Revolution in an engaging way. We were given a task of writing our own rap songs that would include the major events or causes of the American Revolution.

First, we composed these songs in groups and presented them in class. We even recorded our songs and everyone came up with unique lyrics and tunes which made us understand the topic better. We enjoyed this part the most and some of my classmates even helped with the recording and editing of these videos. The best part was that we got to show these short rap song videos during our school assembly in front of the whole school.







-Pahal Thakkar Grade 8, GICLM



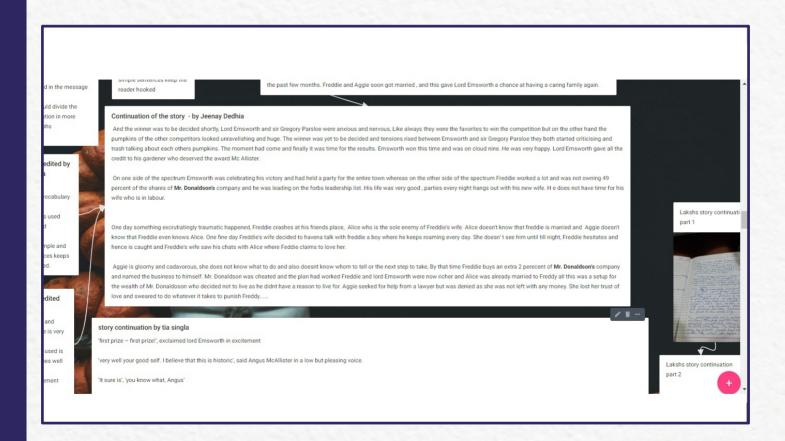
#### Learning English Literature Online Through Padlet

During the month of March, Grade 9 students explored the short story 'The Custody of the Pumpkin', authored by by British comic writer P. G. Wodehouse. Students began this lesson with a thorough independent reading of the story, during which they noted their questions and insights in their English Literature notebooks. Once everyone had read the story, students took to the online blogging forum Padlet to post about the main themes they had discovered. They also posed questions for their peers to answer while considering thoughts others had noted.

The next step required small group collaboration to tackle discussion questions posed concerning the characters and plot. Students found the use of Padlet for this activity to be quite helpful due to the benefit of allowing multiple students to contribute to a single webpage simultaneously.

Next, as much of the conflict was not resolved at the end of the story, students endeavoured to write a continuation, bringing the story to a fitting conclusion based on their prior knowledge of each character's personality and the general flow of the story. In order to accomplish this, after the drafting process, students posted their rough drafts to Padlet and worked together to help their peers by editing and proofreading.

All in all, the interactive online learning through the use of Padlet and other forums providing a mechanism for collaboration will only continue to strengthen our students' love and understanding of English literature.



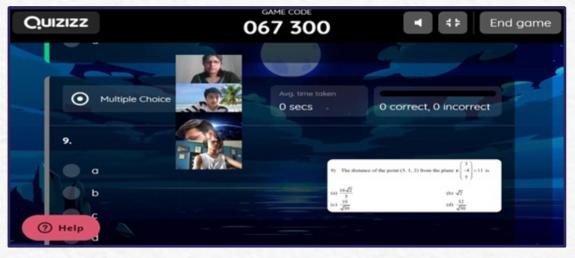


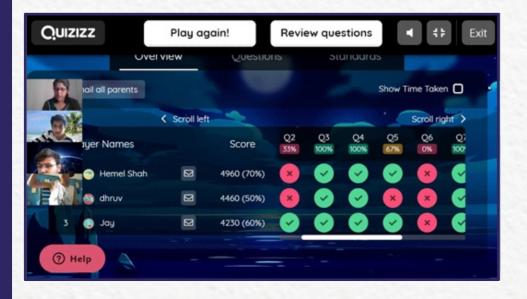
#### Formative Assessment (Quiz) GR-II MATH HL

In Grade 11 we conducted a Mathematics Quiz on Quizizz.com about the topic "Equation of a Plane in Vectors". The class was also conducted through Zoom, so that students were able to be observed during the lesson.

At the beginning of the lesson, the game code was shared with the students which enabled them to join the game. The teacher then shared shared their screen with the students so the game code, the student's name, and which questions they were attempting were all visible. Also, students were able to monitor which questions were done correctly, which were incorrect, and why.









At the end of the test, the total score as well as the per question score of each student was displayed o the teacher's screen, which led directly into a correction and feedback session. We also planned our ne lesson together using Zoom.



At this time of worldwide crisis, as a teacher this a wonderful experience and learning opportunity for both my students and myself. I am not losing my teaching time, and students are not missing their regulessons all thanks to digital learning.

#### Mathematics Teacher (Rumana)

We students were supposed to write a test in our Math HL class, and we were expecting a regular question paper. However, our teacher came up with a new and innovative idea of conducting the test. She used an interactive learning site, Quizziz.com, where we were supposed to answer 10 questions or a quiz while our teacher monitored our progress. We enjoyed writing this test, as this was a new format and we had a unique experience of writing a test.

We had a certain time limit to answer each question and we were given power-ups and streak scores for answering questions continuously correct in a row. We could also see our position on the points table after each question and it motivated us to do better on the next question, as we were competing among each other. We all enjoyed this method a lot and we would like to have more such tests in not only math but other subjects as well.

(Hemel Shah - Gr IBDPI)

















After realizing the huge success of GICLM's first Health Awareness Week during the 2018-19 academic year, we at GICLM prepared and organized our second Health Awareness Week 2019-2020 during the first week of March. It was a week full of activities and events that were focused or celebrating health, wellbeing and fitness.

The events started on 2<sup>d</sup> March 2020 and continued until the end of the week, March 2020. The various activities included a non-fire cooking competition, yoga, dance and movement therapy, art therapy, a wellbeing session on self-acceptance, stress management during exams, and martial arts. Two major highlighted events of this year was a teacher wellbeing workshop, and a workshop with parents on emotional health. At GICLM we understand the importance and presence of teachers and parents in our students' lives, and so to best cater to the needs of our students, we believe in supporting not only them, but people they are surrounded with.

As we have received an overwhelming positive feedback from GICLM community, we feel even more motivated and excited to facilitate next year's Health Awareness Week already.



## **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



Garodia International Centre for Learning Mumbai Plot No. 55, 90 Feet Road, Ghatkopar (East). Mumbai - 400077.