

# SURKHIYAN

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# The Month of December at GICLM



The month of December was quite busy for our students and faculty with three very important activities: examinations, a school musical, and community service.

First, we had our secondary students from Grades 9 to 12 take their first set of examinations for the academic year. This was followed up with our school musical – The Greatest Showman at the end of the term. Each year we are raising the bar for our school musical with spectacular performances from our students. We take pride in seeing our students not only being involved in acting, dance, and choir, but also taking charge of backstage duties like choreography, operating the lights and

sound system, photography, and the editing of tracks and videos for the show, with guidance from the faculty. GICLM provides this platform for students to apply their skills and talents beyond the walls of the classroom in school events and activities. Our IBDP students connected with a community of students from two NGOs and invited them to watch an exclusive performance of the school musical. These students also prepared some delicacies for these children, along with planned games for their entertainment. To round out the month, our staff had a wonderful time together during a Christmas lunch hosted by the school.

The year ended with a lot of excitement and happiness amongst students and staff, bringing smiles to the community as well. Wishing everyone a Happy New Year and a great term ahead!

**Ms Monika Koradia**  
**Operation Head**



# EARLY YEARS

## Down on the Farm



Farm animals are a perennial favourite with young children. Therefore, this month our Nursery kids learned about different farm animals, their young ones, animal sounds, and some fun facts too.

The highlights of this topic included lot of art and craft activities, story sessions, and dramatisations, all of which helped our young learners recognise and identify different farm animals, animal babies, animal sounds, and shelters. Also, with the help of felt finger puppets, kids enjoyed drama sessions and had fun singing their favourite nursery rhyme 'Old MacDonald'.



## Yoga Alert!

Our Early Years Team at GICLM truly believes that yoga is an essential part of a healthy and balanced day to day life for children. It helps in attention, focus, and concentration, and is especially important for young learners. Take a look at our Nursery students practicing a few kid friendly yoga poses!



# All About Animals

Learning about animals helps children become more in touch with the environment while also teaching them to take care of nature. This December in K1, unique regions of our planet and how animals adapt and survive were explored through various activities. Deserts, rainforests, and polar regions were created and examined in class using art and craft materials. It was great to see our children raising questions, discussing, and understanding the reasons as to why some animals and plants are found only in certain regions.



Kindergarten 1

## Space – 'To infinity and Beyond'

The theme 'Space' is an intriguing topic and our little ones in K2 were excited to explore it through fun and engaging hands-on activities.

Students were engrossed while making a rocket using different materials, which enhanced their fine motor and creative skills. They also explored phases of the Moon using Oreo biscuits.

Also this month, our K2 students were given a task where they had to work in pairs and create different models using Lego.

It was interesting to watch our young learners test their social skills such as patience, tolerance, and communication, in order to cooperate with each other and come up with amazing outputs.



Kindergarten 2





## It's that time of year again...

Christmas is a time of cheer and love. In order to celebrate this festive occasion at GICLM, our Early Years students danced to joyful tunes and sang holiday songs. Christmas gifts were distributed to the students by Santa. The significance of the festival was explained to the students through the reading of a Christmas story.

Take a look at our kids having a great time!



## All about Forests

For the entry point of our new IPC unit, 'The Earth: Our Home', Grade 1 students were asked to turn their classroom into a forest habitat. The children brainstormed and came up with amazing ideas of what they thought would be included in a forest. Next, students produced artwork to display their ideal image of what a forest should look like. They then presented their art and discussed the kind of forests they had drawn, while also engaging in lively conversation concerning the various plants and animals that are found there.

**Grade 1**



## Mumbai Island Tour

As part of the ongoing 'Island Life' unit, our young explorers from Grades 2 and 3 had the opportunity to learn about our very own city, Mumbai. Students not only learnt about the city's history, but they also compared the differences between how Mumbaikars lived in the past compared to how they live today.

They compared Mumbai's transportation, food, architecture, and lifestyle, among many other aspects of the city. To learn about how the seven different islands look today, our explorers had the opportunity to tour around Mumbai. They visited many of Mumbai's famous destinations including the Gateway of India, Marine Drive, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, and many more. Students claimed the best part of the trip was undoubtedly visiting the "Boot" located at Hanging Gardens!

**Grade 2 and 3**



## Frohe Weihnachten!!!

The spirit of Christmas is upon us! When our students think of Christmas, the first thing that comes to their mind is Santa. This month our students in Grade 1 wrote a letter to Santa using the German language. They wrote to Santa telling him their Christmas wishes. Not only did our tiny learners enjoy this activity, but they also learnt new words in German and the beautiful art of letter writing.

**Grade 1**



# Treasure in the Family

Family heirlooms are artefacts that provide comfort and a sense of connection to our heritage. They illustrate our family histories and provide memories of our loved ones. Passed down from generation to generation, often with a background story, they help preserve our heritage for future generations.

This month, the children of Grade 4 had a wonderful opportunity to find and speak about a family heirloom, picture, or story about their ancestors for the current IPC unit 'The Time Tunnel' which asked them to trace their own family history. They experienced a sense of pride and belonging while presenting their treasured objects, which highlighted their communication and language skills.

**Grade 4**



# Automated Teller Machines

The students of Grade 5 gathered information about, and reviewed the chapter related to ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) in Hindi class this month. Their understanding of the topic was tested by way of an activity.

In this activity, the class debated about the advantages and disadvantages of technology after doing detailed research on the topic.



**Grades 5**



## Time for Timeline



Timelines help students make connections between the present and the past in a visually appealing and chronological way. By arranging the events along a timeline, it's easier for students to understand the relationships that exist between them. Here at GICLM, our aim is to provide enough opportunities for students to explore various tools and visual aids like these in order to make learning fun.

This month, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders have been studying all about the American Revolution in their History class. We began with a bit of individual research on various important events that led to American independence. Arranging these events chronologically into a timeline got students talking about the possibility of some events having led to others, and thus helped establish a link between them. Also, another aim was to create curiosity about the events like 'The French and Indian War', 'The Boston Massacre', 'The Boston Tea Party' and 'The Battle of Lexington and Concord' etc., which were crucial in shaping America's history.

This activity definitely helped enhance students' research as well as analytical skills. It also triggered discussions in groups, building communication skills along the way.

**Grade 8**



## My Experience at a German Youth Camp

In the last week of October, I got the opportunity to be a part of a German Youth Camp in Sri Lanka for a week. The thought of meeting students from different countries in South Asia at the camp really excited me.

For me, the main highlight of the camp was of course the interactive German classes. These classes were my favourite because they provided a place where I could enrich my language skills and extend them in various workshops and excursions.

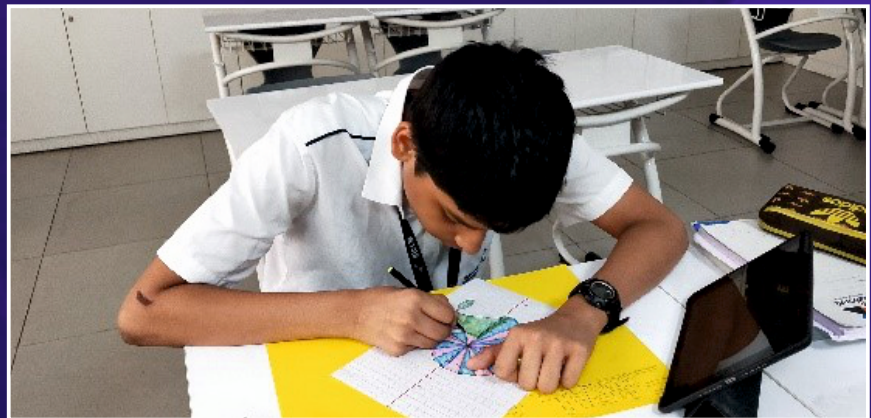
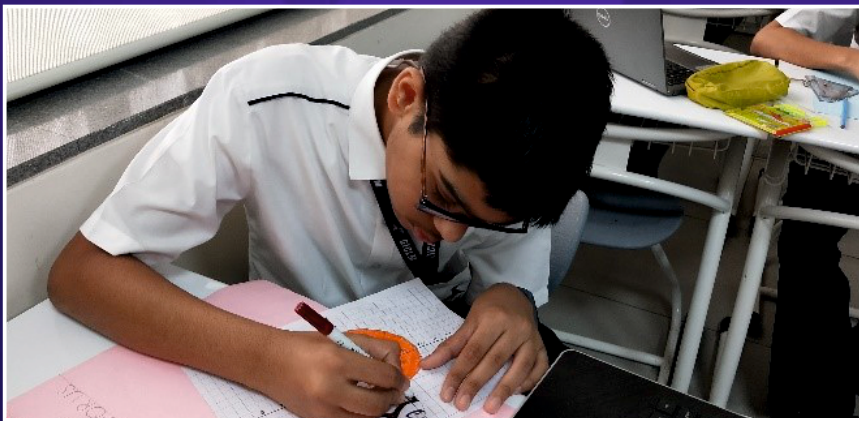
I was elated to be a part of the dance workshop, where we concentrated on contemporary dance. On the final day, we presented our dance piece at the Cultural Evening Show. I am going to pursue Dance and German in IBDP here at GICLM, and I am extremely thankful to the school and PASCH for giving me the opportunity to attend this camp.

**Aarna Popat**

**Grade 10**







## WHEEL OF THEODORUS

Grade 9 Additional Mathematics students dove into surds and radicals in the month of December. While discussing the application of these two concepts, real world situations were put in front of students.

The Wheel of Theodorus was a particularly engaging activity which asked students to draw and beautify a spiral into different living beings existing in nature. Students were excited to transfer their knowledge of plotting to draw the wheel according to their choice. This helped our students extend their knowledge of mathematics beyond the syllabus.

To round out the activity, students worked individually to present their work uniquely. All completed work and facts were neatly arranged on chart paper. During this process, students worked to develop their research skills and creativity.

# Functions in Nature

During the month of December, students in Grade 9 investigated how graphing functions are present in nature and in daily life. Some of the examples that come under this are: exponential functions, cubic functions, quadratic functions, periodic functions, and circular functions.

During Maths class, students were asked to click some pictures outside the classroom depicting some functions in order to see how they are present in nature. Then, we used a graphing software called Geogebra to illustrate these pictures with functions and sliders. I really learned a lot about the abundant functions in nature. Overall, this activity showed how math is present everywhere, and how we can model real-life situations through math.

**Anirudh Koli**

**Grade 9**

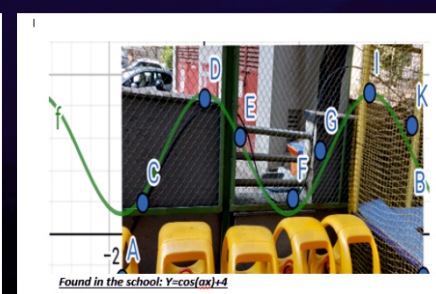
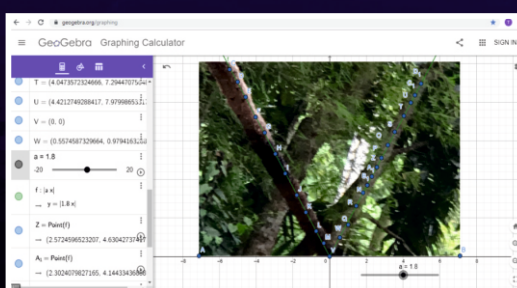
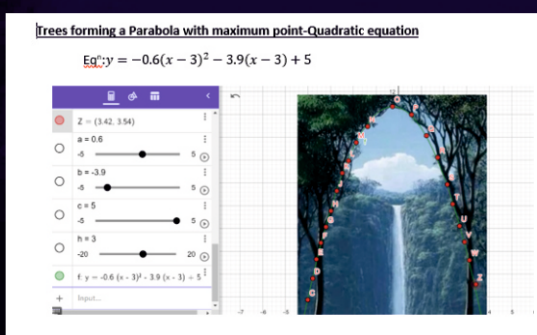
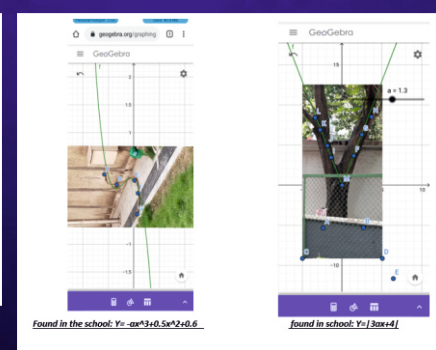
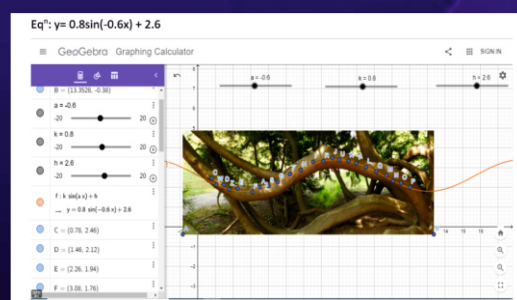
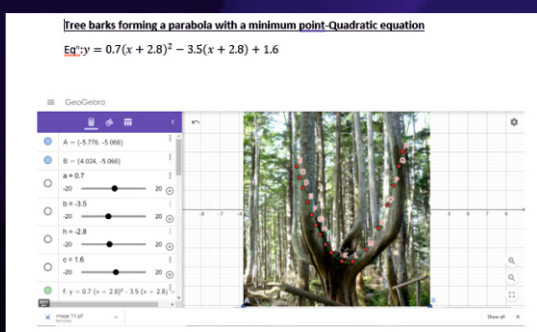
There is maths everywhere: symmetry, graphs, geometry, equations, and more. Maths can be found everywhere in nature, from trees that can form parabolas, to roots that form complex wave patterns. This project taught me a lot about several transformations, how to change graphs to fit the picture, and how to better visualize complex equations.

Some of the transformations I learnt are:

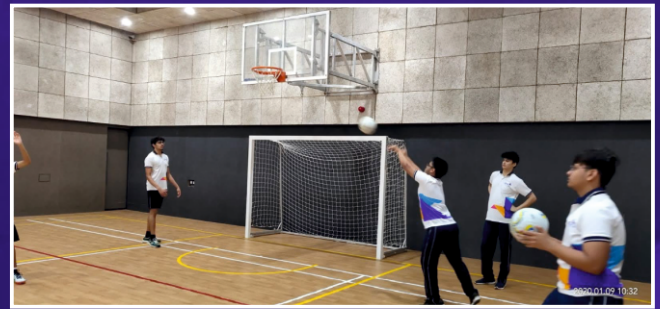
- In  $ax^2 + bx + c$ ,  $c$  transforms the graph vertically,  $a$  changes the slope, and  $b$  changes the maximum/minimum point.
- In  $y = |hx|$ ,  $h$  changes the slope, in this case, the angle between the 2 rays.
- In  $y = e^{ax+b}$ ,  $a$  changes the slope, and  $b$  shifts the graph horizontally.
- In  $y = \sin(ax + b)$ ,  $a$  changes the frequency of the wave, and  $b$  change the starting point (horizontal shift).
- In  $y = ax^{bx}$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  both change the minimum/ maximum point and the slope.

**Tanmay Kamat**

**Grade 9**



# IB Diploma Programme



## Volleyball

During the month of December in Physical Education class, the sport of volleyball was introduced to our IB students.

We started each session by warming up through stretching and jogging. The importance of these two tasks is essential for all sports in order to prevent injuries. Also, in order to strengthen their core and backs, which are essential to the game of volleyball, students did crunches and burpees.

Next, we gave a volleyball to each student and instructed them on the right way to hold the ball and the correct stance they should take while playing. We then taught them underarm and over-the-head passes. Initially their hands hurt, but over time they got used to the sport and started having fun.

As the session progressed, students began to understand how to strategically play the game and work together as a team, with each individual executing their own role in order to score points. Overall, these sessions were very productive and certainly kept all of our IB students actively participating, while at the same time working on their fitness and endurance.



# The Greatest Showman

Garodia International Center of Learning Mumbai put on its second annual musical on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2019. Students from Grades 1 to 12 performed in the musical, The Greatest Showman, inspired by the life of the legendary 19<sup>th</sup>-century American circus ringmaster P.T. Barnum.

It was a delight to watch the students sing, act, perform dialogues, dance and wow the audience with their performance. They astounded one and all with their singing and acting skills, keeping in mind stage presence, placement, voice modulation, and projection. Each and every student played his/her part to perfection. It was a treat to watch our children accomplish this feat with so much ease and comfort. They owned the stage!

Much appreciation to the talented team of teachers for developing and honing the singing, expressions, and the acting skills of our students. The entire force of teachers and students tirelessly worked towards the successful execution of the musical. The choir and the dances woven in to the play added lustre to the performance. Parents and members of the community, who came in great numbers, wholeheartedly appreciated the effort which was so very evident on the stage.

**Mr John Joans**  
**Music Teacher**



The Greatest Showman, an engaging and powerful musical put up by an amazing team of teachers and students working together. When we were first told about it in our assembly at the beginning of the term, I immediately knew that I wanted to be a part of it.

Later in the term, as the cast was decided, it was a challenging task for all of us to take our skills up a notch and make ourselves worthy of performing as the characters assigned to us! I can honestly say from witnessing the entire show built-up from scratch, particularly for our performing arts teachers, it was an astonishingly arduous task. Yes, it did seem impossible at times; however, the enthusiasm displayed by the cast, and indeed everyone involved, was what propelled this show to what it became in the end.

Personally, I found the performance to be surprisingly fun and also an intriguing learning experience which taught us not only about teamwork, but also how to overcome difficult challenges. While sharpening our performing skills, working on The Greatest Showman also showed us the benefits of true hard work and discipline.

It was an overall great and unforgettable experience getting the opportunity to play P.T. Barnum. I am very grateful to my teachers for their guidance and support without whom this wouldn't have been possible.

**Manav Modi**  
*Main Cast (P.T. Barnum)*





From the IT Team's perspective, The Greatest Showman was a highly ambitious project. From the sound to the light choreography, everything needed to be perfect. Personally, I oversaw the backdrops, as well as the co-ordination between the light and sound departments.

The backdrops were, by far, the hardest part for me. About 30 to 35 hours went into procuring the pictures and then later editing them into the images you saw during the show. Even the videos my supervisors procured required some editing to make them sync with the music. Many technical setbacks occurred as well, but our team was able to handle them well and adapt accordingly.

The light choreography was done by – Siddhant, Siddh, Mr John, Ms Palak, and Ms Sandhya. They all really put a lot of effort into this part of the show. The sounds were taken care of by Vedant, Mr Sandeep, and Mr Hemant. My job was to move the backdrops and help these two departments co-ordinate with each other, which was stressful during the show.

The journey was hectic, but in the end, the show was a great success, due in great part to many teachers and students working tirelessly behind the scenes.

**Tejas Srinivasan**  
**Technical Director**





### **ARYAN SHAH**

Aryan graduated in 2017 from our IGCSE programme after spending 12 years with Garodia. He was the Indian Cambridge IGCSE Top Achiever after his results with 97% average. He went on to gain an IB score of 43 points. He is currently a freshman at UC Berkeley, USA studying for a double major in Economics and Computer Science with a minor in Theatre. Hearing about the German Spelling Bee at GICLM he came to visit us and kindly agreed to do an interview for us.

#### **Welcome Aryan. How is USA treating you?**

It's very different from studying in India. It's a lot more open, there is more liberty and the university expects students to be organised and do things yourself. You are given responsibility.

#### **What is study like at UC Berkeley?**

It is tough, being at a top 10 school. I have to keep working hard with a number of papers every term similar to the IB Diploma's Extended Essay. The IB really helped me because the TOK course prepared me well for the type of philosophical debates lecturers like to challenge us with.

#### **Did studying at Garodia help you in any way?**

I had a relatively stress free environment because of the teachers who were the most helpful of any in any place I have attended. I learned how to manage my time and be open to new ideas. Attending the German language camps also helped me tremendously. Teachers kept me humble and pushed me hard to achieve.

#### **What memories do you have of Garodia?**

I know that I used to be a bit of a notorious student. I remember all my teachers fondly: Ms Uma, Ms Mahalakshmi (my first teacher), Ms Priyanka, Ms Kshama, ms Monika and others. I would never have got to Berkeley without them. The atmosphere is so special here: I miss sharing our lunches at the dining table, the samosa's from the corner shop (in fact he was the first one I made sure to visit), the Annual day, debate team, student council, football and basketball, camps all remain in my memories. Of all places my heart remains with Garodia as will my friends.

#### **What aspirations do you have for your future?**

After completing an MBA, I see myself working in venture capital or consulting maybe with a focus on technology.

#### **What advice would you give our students?**

Life is full of ups and downs. But the downs gave me an ability and determination to strive for more. So be humble and push yourself. Always have fun while you can.

We wish you well Aryan and good luck with your studies and career.





# 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.