



The Gera School Newsletter

23rd November 2024

(Grade 6 – Grade 10)

Dear everyone,

When you get this, the Christmas season will still be on – and I thought I would share thoughts on Jesus. Let me, for a moment, put aside all the religious mythology that surrounds Jesus and focus only on the historical figure of Jesus, dwelling on just a few lessons his life gives us.

Lesson 1: The acquisition and use of material things:

Jesus would have lived a life of privation as a child. The elderly carpenter would have earned enough to keep the wolf from the door but there would have been months when there were 'too many days at the end of the money'. Yet, Jesus is singularly unattached to material things. He could be without food or drink for a while, or without surplus money in the pouch, and not be deeply affected. (In today's loosely-used parlance, we would be 'traumatised'.) He does not disrespect money for he would have known that it was due to rich and generous patrons that he and his disciples were taken care of a lot of the times. All he is clear about is that money and wealth are means to an end and never the end itself; the earning of money was never a primal and paramount need for no man could serve two masters.

And it is this detachment from material things that we could learn to cultivate. By all means create and enjoy wealth. But learn to share. And when it is not there in abundance, we learn to take it in our stride and make no moan about it.

Lesson 2: The use of talents:

Jesus was a fine preacher. 'Godmen' today have huge amounts of wealth and resources and are business savvy. Jesus was uninterested in milking his talents. Perhaps it was enough for him to sway many people to become his followers and only a dozen to become his close associates. We should use talents for one's benefit and the fulfilment of one's purpose. But, thereafter, use it for the good of others as well.

Lesson 3: Courage

A rare quality that we find in Jesus is his courage. Of course, he would have known that his beliefs and his teachings would be inimical to the interests of those in power – both temporal and religious. Of course, he knew what the end could possibly be. Yet, Jesus was not one to test the waters or see which way the wind was blowing and then act accordingly. He had the firm courage of his convictions and never backed down. Even in his last moments, all he prayed was for not to be forsaken.

You and I may not be a Jesus here. But where will we find ourselves if not in our convictions, in our own personal philosophy of life? If we be men of straw, the day will soon be nigh when we will be bereft of respect (much less admiration) for ourselves – and then others will follow suit and not respect us. Let us be courageous to act and speak as we know to be right and so inspire a movement or be a part of it.

Have a good festive season and may the lessons of Jesus' life stay with us.

Warm wishes,

C P Joseph
PRINCIPAL

EVENTS

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Children's Day celebrations at The Gera School were nothing short of spectacular, as the staff left no stone unturned in making the day unforgettable for the students. The event showcased a vibrant array of performances, beginning with teachers dazzling the stage with their energetic dances and melodious songs. Adding a heartfelt touch, the Housekeeping staff also graced the stage with their endearing performances, winning the hearts of all present. A captivating skit brought characters from mythology to life. Teachers ventured into the art of puppetry to narrate stories that transported the audience to a magical realm.



Stepping out of their comfort zones, the staff demonstrated their creativity and passion, embodying the spirit of the day. To amplify the excitement, the school organized live music, a bouncy castle, and giant games, transforming the campus into a place of joy and laughter. Students revelled in the festivities, their faces lighting up with delight as they participated in the activities. It was a day dedicated to celebrating the innocence, smiles, and joy that children bring into our lives. As much as the students were thrilled, the staff too found immense joy in making the day special, truly capturing the essence of Children's Day at TGS.

AS & A-LEVEL ORIENTATION



PHOENIX HOUSE VISIT TO MATRUCHCHAYA



On 28th October, Nida Khan of Grade 10 and Ms Shikha Solanki representing the Phoenix house from our School visited Matruchchaya, an orphanage in Ponda, to deliver donated goods generously contributed by students of our House. The visit was a humbling experience, as it highlighted the importance of giving and sharing with those in need. The joy on the children's faces was heartwarming, reminding us that small acts of kindness can create significant impacts. This visit reinforced the value of contributing to society and inspired us all to continue making a difference in the lives of others.

NEWS FROM THE SPECIALISTS

MUSIC

GRADES 6 TO 8

Students of Grades 6, 7 and 8 are busy with their preparations for the upcoming Annual Day performance. While some are involved in the Jungle Book play choir, others are learning to embody their characters in the Disney medley! Everyone is working hard to put up a good show! We can't wait!

DANCE

GRADES 6 & 7

Students of Grades 6 and 7 are practising diligently for their upcoming Annual day dance performances. Students are excited about putting on a show that will entertain their families and friends. Many are going out of their comfort zone and pushing themselves to learn and present dance styles that they wouldn't normally come across in their social settings. Although we are still working on cleaner lines, better synchronisation and more confident stage presence, their perseverance will hopefully be received with much applause.

DRAMA

GRADES 6 TO 9

As we continue to prepare for the Annual Day performance of Jungle Book, the cast is getting warmed up to enthrall you with their performances. Theatre cannot function without a good production team!



An elephant never forgets ... but first they need to memorize their dialogues!



Not all snakes are charming but our KAAs surely are!



Practice makes perfect whether on stage or side stage.



ART

GRADE 6

Grade 6, students explored the vibrant and bold artistic style of Dutch artist Ton Schulten, learning to use acrylic paints to create beautiful gradients and various shades. Through hands-on experimentation, they developed skills in colour mixing, blending, and layering to achieve depth and harmony in their compositions. The students also delved into the importance of line composition, using bold, geometric lines to divide and structure their paintings, inspired by Schulten's abstract landscapes. This project allowed them to express creativity while honing their technical painting skills, resulting in unique and colourful artworks.



GRADE 7

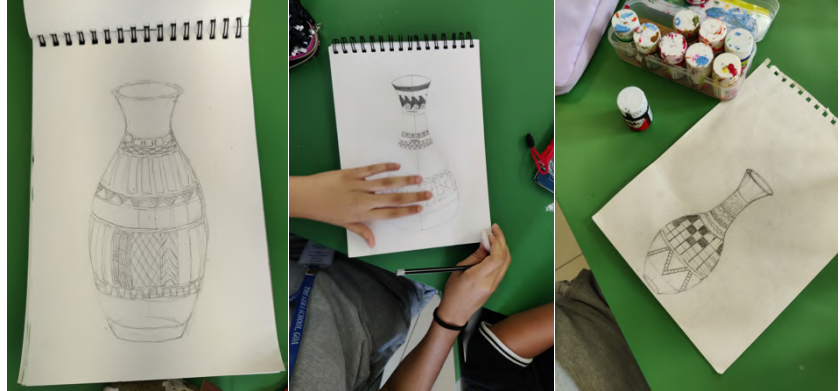
Grade 7 learners stepped into the fascinating world of surrealism, exploring its dreamlike qualities and imaginative elements. They learned about this unique art movement, which challenges reality and encourages creative thinking. This introduction sparked curiosity and inspired students to view art through a new, imaginative lens.



GRADE 8

Grade 8 learners embarked on an exciting journey into the art of ancient Greece, learning about the rich history and intricate designs of Greek pottery. They explored the shapes,

motifs, and stories that adorned these historical artifacts. As part of the lesson, they showcased their creativity by replicating these designs on paper, gaining a deeper appreciation for this timeless art form. It was a wonderful blend of history and hands-on artistic expression!



GRADE 9

Grade 9 learners have embarked on an exciting exploration of landscape painting. This new journey focuses on understanding perspective, atmospheric perspective, and the elements of strong composition. By honing these skills, students are learning to bring depth, emotion, and balance to their landscapes, creating artworks that beautifully capture the essence of nature.



CIRCLE TIME / LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

GRADE 6

The learners of Grade 6 were introduced to the concept of personal space where they were given the opportunity to understand how their presence affects another and is affected by others in their immediate surroundings. Learners could evaluate how comfort levels were a great indicator of someone encroaching on their personal space, thus helping them evaluate their own radar for safety as well.



GRADE 7



The learners of Grade 7 were introduced to the concept of safety and consent. Being able to understand their responses to people at this age is a very crucial step in ensuring awareness of safety and security. Learners need to be able to evaluate how much personal space makes them feel out of their depth and with whom.

GRADE 8

Learners of Grade 8 went deeper into the concept of consent. Learners watched a video and had discussions about it. Being able to understand your rights and your ability to say 'NO' helps learners to keep themselves safe in various situations. We have all learnt about stranger danger, but we also need to know about the dangers that lurk in supposedly safe spaces and situations.



ICT

GRADE 6

Learners revised the different categories of software that exist under the broad umbrella of the commonly used term 'Software'. They learnt what simulators are, and how they work. Learners later learnt about sensors, and used this knowledge to research on how sensors are used in simulators and other digital devices. They were able to draw flowcharts to incorporate the working of a sensor in a particular device, or a given scenario. Furthermore, they were able to explain how a program is evaluated, using the following stages: Plan, Design, Develop, Test, Review and Evaluate.

GRADE 7

Learners revised pseudo codes, flowcharts and algorithms as intermediate means between raw data and a working program code. They learnt how to write programs using pseudo codes, and used the decomposition method to break the problem down into simpler steps. Learners used the 'linear search' method as a searching algorithm, and were able to use arrays to write their pseudo code. Furthermore, they were able to explain how the iterative process to solve a problem works, using the following stages: Plan, Design, Develop, Test, Review and Evaluate.

GRADE 8

Learners revised the different categories of software that exist under the broad umbrella of the commonly used term 'Software'. They further learnt the units for data storage (bits, nibble, byte, KB, MB, GB, TB, etc), and used them to solve various storage-related word problems. Learners were able to explain the different types of translators that exist; and were taken through the Fetch-Decode-Execute cycle to understand the working of the processor along with the registers used in the process. They later worked with logic gates, and were able to draw logic circuits and truth tables for complex logic expressions.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

GRADE 9

Learners discussed the various program designing methods (pseudocodes for iterations - REPEAT...UNTIL, WHILE...DO; input and output statements). They were able to explain the purpose of an algorithm, while they also used the standard methods of solution (Totalling, Counting, Finding Max, Min and Average, Linear search, Bubble sort) in various programs. Learners learnt the validation techniques and its types (range checks, length checks, type checks, presence check, format checks, check digits), along with the various verification techniques and its types (double entry, screen/visual check).

FRENCH

GRADE 6

Grade 6 French learners diligently prepared for their Term-2 examination through comprehensive revision. They revised grammatical concepts, focusing on the application of tenses and verb conjugations. The students also honed their speaking skills and improved their pronunciation through interactive practice sessions. Additionally, listening exercises from their textbooks, accompanied by audio recordings, were used to enhance their comprehension and auditory skills. This well-rounded approach ensured that the learners gained confidence in their linguistic abilities, both in written and oral communication.

GRADE 7

This fortnight, Grade 7 students focused on using the perfect tense to describe past events and daily activities. They learned to talk about things they've done recently, like helping at home, studying, or attending a celebration. Using expressions of time, they practised sentences such as *J'ai mangé* (I ate) or *J'ai étudié* (I studied), which helped them express when events occurred. Students also worked with regular -er, -ir, and -re verbs, forming sentences like *J'ai choisi un cadeau* (I chose a gift) and *J'ai acheté des souvenirs* (I bought souvenirs). They practiced both affirmative and negative forms of the perfect tense, describing past choices and visits. Additionally, students worked on improving their reading comprehension skills, preparing for their summative exams by understanding vocabulary and sentence structures.

GRADE 8

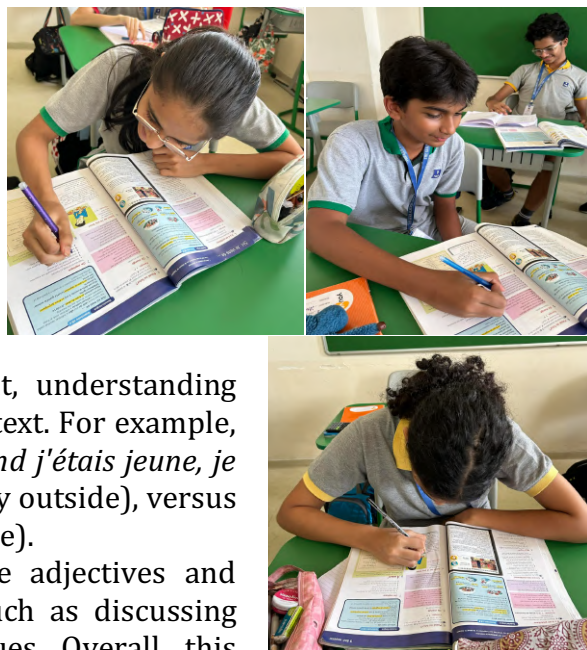
Grade 8 French learners thoroughly prepared for their Term 2 examination by revising key concepts. They practiced using pronominal verbs in the past tense and transforming sentences into the imperative form. Additionally, students engaged in speaking activities

to improve their fluency and worked diligently on pronunciation. They also revisited the topic of school subjects, learning to express their preferences and provide reasons for liking or disliking each one. Finally, they focused on expressing interest and admiration for things they enjoy, enhancing their ability to articulate opinions and personal interests in French with confidence and accuracy.

GRADE 9

Grade 9 students focused on a thorough revision of verb tenses in preparation for their summative exams. They reviewed the present, imperative, passé composé, imparfait, conditionnel, futur proche, and futur simple tenses, practicing their use through various worksheets and exercises. A significant focus was placed on the imparfait tense, used to describe memories and habitual actions in the past. Students compared the passé composé and imparfait, understanding when to use each tense depending on the context. For example, they learned to describe past events like *Quand j'étais jeune, je jouais dehors* (When I was young, I used to play outside), versus actions that are completed, like *J'ai mangé* (I ate).

Students also practiced using demonstrative adjectives and shopping vocabulary in real-life contexts, such as discussing school supplies and handling shopping issues. Overall, this fortnight, the learners focused on improving both writing and speaking skills by applying the correct tense in various situations.



GRADE 10

Grade 10 French learners are dedicated to enhancing all four language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. They have been refining their writing by incorporating expressive phrases and practical vocabulary, which also strengthens their speaking abilities. Additionally, they have been practicing the use of phrasal verbs to elevate their writing quality. To further prepare for their board examinations, students have engaged in solving past papers, enabling them to familiarize themselves with exam patterns and improve their proficiency. This comprehensive approach ensures they are well-equipped with the skills and confidence needed for academic success in French.

HINDI

GRADE 6

The Grade 6 students revised key concepts such as Sangya (Nouns), Sarvanaam (Pronouns), Kriya (Verbs),



Kriyavisheshan (Adverbs), Viram Chihn (Punctuation), as well as chapters and poems through various activities like Verbal Tennis, Match the Pair, and Fill in the Blanks. Additionally, they participated in speaking activities on topics such as *Garmi Ka Mausam*, *Meri Priya Film*, *Vyayam Ka Mahatva*, *Jal Pradushan* etc which focused on their confidence and language fluency.

GRADES 7 & 8

The Grade 7 and Grade 8 students revised key concepts such as Upsarg (Prefixes), Pratyay (Suffixes), Paryayvachi Shabd (Synonyms), Vilom Shabd (Antonyms), Kaal (Tense), Sangya (Nouns), Sarvanaam (Pronouns), Kriya (Verbs), Kriyavisheshan (Adverbs), and Viram Chihn (Punctuation), along with chapters and poems, through engaging activities like Dumb Charades, Chitra Varnan (Picture Description) where each student contributed one line, Verbal Tennis, Match the Pair, and Fill in the Blanks. They also participated in speaking activities on topics such as *Mobile Ka Mahatva*, *Jal Hi Jeevan Hai*, *Rishte Anmol Hai* and *Parishram Hi Dhan Hai* to enhance their confidence and language fluency. The learners of Grade 8 also crafted original stories incorporating *muhavarein* fostering creativity and refining their speaking. Furthermore, they integrated ICT tools for Hindi presentations, refining their presentation skills and digital literacy.

GRADE 9

The Grade 9 learners revised key topics such as Diary Writing, Letter Writing, Essay Writing, Advertisement Writing, Kaal (Tense), chapters through various activities and solved Apathit Gadyansh. To enhance their public speaking skills, they delivered speeches on diverse topics such as *Kritrim Buddhimatta*, *Jal Vayu Parivartan*, *Sadak Durghatana*, *Vaishvik Samasya*, *Pradushan Ki Samasya*, *Navratri*, *Jhansi Ki Rani*, *Yadgar Pal* etc.

P.E

GRADES 6 TO 9

Students of Grades 6 to 9 have begun with the Sports Day practices. Can't reveal much at this stage!

LIBRARY

GRADE 8

A book in 5 minutes:

A book in 5 minutes: This activity evaluates your skill to promote a book, inspired by the popular UK radio game show "Just a Minute." The students formed



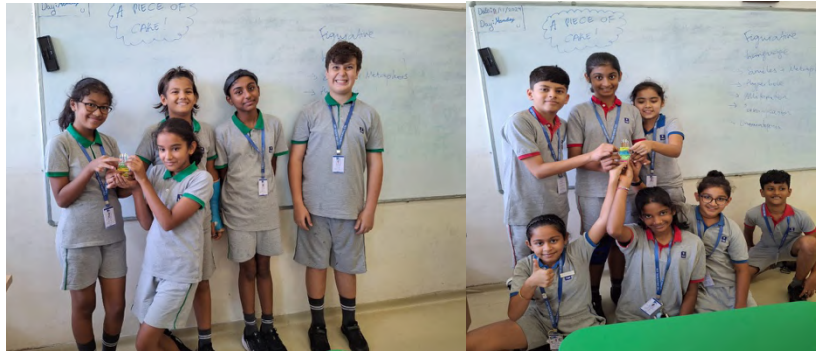
groups and were instructed to read the book while trying to convince the other group to make a purchase. They needed to talk about the book, the author, and the title.

NEWS FROM EACH GRADE

GRADE 6

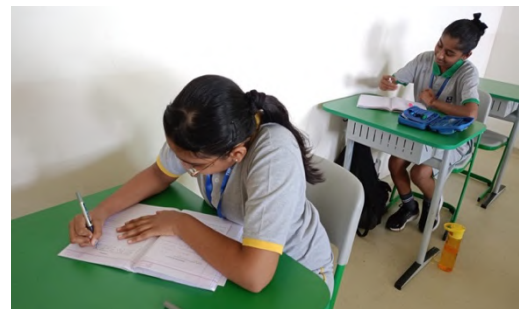
ENGLISH

Grade 6 students revised The Ballad of a River and Black Beauty through reference-to-context questions and worksheets. To explore figurative language, they participated in an exciting activity called "A Piece of Cake." Divided into groups, they solved five tasks, earning a piece of a colourful paper cake with each successful attempt. By the end, their collaborative efforts completed the cake. The creative and interactive session was thoroughly enjoyed, making learning both meaningful and memorable.



MATH

Grade 6 students engaged in thorough preparation for their Term 2 Math exams using worksheets and interactive revision sessions. Key topics such as fractions, factors, rounding, and decimals were revisited to strengthen their understanding. Additionally, students received valuable tips and strategies on time management to enhance their exam performance. These strategies included prioritizing questions, allocating time wisely, and reviewing answers effectively. The blend of practice and guidance ensured students felt equipped and confident to tackle their upcoming exams successfully.



PHYSICS

Grade 6 students enthusiastically revised for their Physics exams through an engaging quiz-based session. The quizzes covered key concepts such as sound, vibrations, and the properties of sound waves, allowing students to recall and reinforce their understanding

in a fun and interactive manner. The competitive yet collaborative atmosphere encouraged active participation and clarified any lingering doubts. This dynamic approach not only made revision enjoyable but also boosted students' confidence and readiness for their upcoming exams.

CHEMISTRY

Grade 6 students reviewed important topics in Chemistry and Earth Science as part of their exam preparation. In Chemistry, they focused on the structure and properties of materials, while in earth science, they delved into understanding the Earth's crust. To strengthen their grasp of these topics, they completed a well-rounded revision worksheet.



BIOLOGY

Grade 6 students revised key concepts in Biology to prepare for their upcoming exams. They explored topics such as organisms, cells, and microorganisms, building a strong foundation in these areas. To solidify their knowledge, students worked on a comprehensive revision worksheet, ensuring they are ready to excel in their assessments.

G.P.

Grade 6 students as a part of Term II revised the topic: Globalisation. They revisited the types of globalisation, which includes Social, Economic and Cultural Globalisation. They further looked into positives as well as negatives of each globalisation. Students also looked into the importance of sustainability for the environment and future generations.

HISTORY

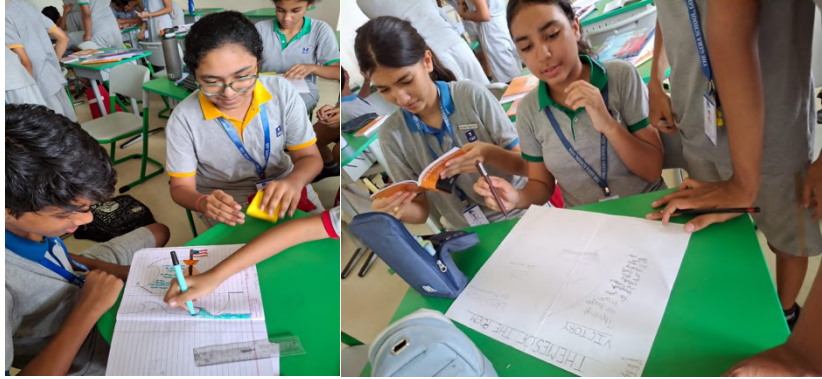
Grade 6 students enthusiastically revised topics like the Early Vedic Period, the Indus Valley Civilisation, and Rural Local Self-Government through an engaging MasterChef-style quiz. The activity was an exciting mix of knowledge and creativity, designed to prepare them for their exams. The students thoroughly enjoyed the lively format, which turned revision into an interactive and fun-filled experience. Their active participation and competitive spirit made the session both educational and enjoyable. As part of their FA, students created detailed graphic organisers on topics from the Early Vedic Period, showcasing their understanding through creative visuals and organised content.

GEOGRAPHY

Students of Grade 6 actively revised the chapter on agriculture and major crops in preparation for their upcoming examination. They focused on key topics like crop patterns, types of farming, and crop production techniques. Additionally, there was a detailed discussion on the paper pattern, highlighting important sections and expected question formats.

GRADE 7 **ENGLISH**

Grade 7 students engaged in a dynamic revision session using worksheets featuring reference-to-context questions from *The Hound of the Baskervilles* and *Aurangzeb at His Father's Bier*. They also played an interactive game called "5-4-3-2-1," where groups tackled five tasks focused on vocabulary, figurative language, writing, synonyms, and comprehension. The activity fostered teamwork and enthusiasm, making the revision process enjoyable and productive. Students actively participated and appreciated the creative approach to reinforcing their learning.



MATH

Grade 7 students actively prepared for their Term 2 Math exams through a combination of worksheets, peer teaching, and discussions. Worksheets focused on key topics such as negative numbers, 2D and 3D shapes, expressions, and angles, helping students reinforce their understanding. Peer teaching sessions allowed students to explain concepts to one another, fostering collaboration and deeper learning. Discussions provided a platform to clarify doubts and share strategies. This comprehensive revision approach ensured students felt confident and well-prepared for their exams.



PHYSICS

Grade 7 students actively participated in a focused revision session for Physics. As part of their end-of-chapter review, the class engaged in a thorough discussion of workbook questions designed to reinforce their understanding of key concepts. The collaborative atmosphere allowed students to clarify doubts and strengthen their grasp on challenging topics. In addition to revising core concepts, the session emphasized practical strategies to excel in examinations. Students received valuable tips on presenting answers with clarity, managing time efficiently, and avoiding common errors such as misreading questions or skipping calculation steps.

CHEMISTRY

Grade 7 students revisited essential topics in Chemistry and Earth Science to gear up for their exams. In Chemistry, they studied the structure and properties of materials, while in earth science, they explored the Earth's resources. To reinforce their understanding, they engaged with a revision worksheet, helping them review key ideas and prepare thoroughly for their assessments.



BIOLOGY

Grade 7 reviewed important biology topics as part of their exam preparations. They focused on key areas such as respiration, movement, and nutrition, deepening their understanding of these fundamental concepts. To reinforce their learning, they completed a thorough revision worksheet, ensuring they are well-prepared for their assessments.



G.P.

Grade 7 students as a part of Term II revised the topics: Water, Food and Agriculture, Migration and Poverty and Inequality. Students used their Critical Thinking and Reasoning skills to address the topic, 'Migration due to climate change: A growing global crisis'. They also ideated effective strategies in bridging the gap between the rich and the poor.

HISTORY

The Grade 7 students engaged in a focused revision session to strengthen their understanding of key historical topics, including the Rise of Christianity and the American Civil War. Through interactive presentations, they explored the significant events, figures, and impacts of these subjects. The revision was further supported by a detailed discussion on the paper pattern, helping students familiarize themselves with the expected format and key areas to focus on for the upcoming examination.



This approach allowed students to clarify doubts and reinforce their knowledge effectively.

GEOGRAPHY

The students of Grade 7 revised the chapter on Weather and Climate, focusing on solving problems related to diurnal, daily, and annual mean temperatures. They also reviewed the chapter on Types of Weathering and Rocks. In addition, a detailed discussion on the paper pattern was conducted to help students prepare for the upcoming exam.

GRADE 8

ENGLISH

Revision for Grade 8 English was crucial as it helped students consolidate their learning and address areas that needed improvement. It reinforced key concepts such as grammar, comprehension, and writing techniques, ensuring a stronger grasp of the subject. By revisiting topics, students build confidence and improve their ability to apply skills in different contexts, including exams and everyday communication. Focused revision also helped in identifying patterns of errors and developing strategies to avoid them.



MATH

Making Math Colourful: Dividing Fractions with Teamwork

Grade 8 students recently explored dividing fractions through an exciting group colouring activity that combined Math practice with creativity. Working in groups of four, each student solved a unique set of problems involving fractions,



mixed numbers, improper fractions, and word problems. Based on their answers, students coloured sections of their sheets, which, when assembled, revealed a vibrant frog illustration. This visual feedback allowed students to identify errors instantly, sparking discussions and collaborative problem-solving. By blending teamwork with independent thinking, the activity made learning fractions fun and engaging while reinforcing key concepts and encouraging peer learning in a lively classroom environment.

PHYSICS

Grade 8 students engaged in a productive revision session as they tackled end-of-chapter review questions and workbook exercises in Physics. The activity focused on consolidating their understanding of key concepts such as heat transfer, energy conservation, and density calculations. The discussions provided an excellent platform for students to address their conceptual doubts and strengthen their problem-solving skills.

To help students perform their best in the upcoming examinations, practical tips were shared on avoiding common errors like skipping steps in calculations or misinterpreting questions. Emphasis was placed on organizing answers systematically and reviewing work to catch mistakes.

CHEMISTRY

Grade 8 students have been refreshing their understanding of key chemistry and earth science concepts in preparation for their upcoming exams. In chemistry, they focused on the Periodic Table, atomic structure, bonding, and the properties of matter. In Earth Science, they explored the topic of climate change. To reinforce their learning, students completed a thorough revision worksheet, ensuring they are well-equipped for their assessments.



BIOLOGY

Grade 8 students revisited important biology concepts in preparation for their upcoming exams. They focused on topics such as photosynthesis and plant growth, the excretory system, and variation and inheritance. To reinforce their understanding, they worked through a revision worksheet, helping them consolidate their knowledge and feel confident for their assessments.



G. P.

Grade 8 students revised the topics: Sport and Recreation, Language and Communication. Students looked at the importance of communication during a crisis and tried to analyse the impact of commercialisation on sport and sport persons.

HISTORY

Grade 8 students revised the topic of World War One, the Goan Freedom Struggle and the Executive through a fun interactive session on Wuzzles to prep for the upcoming exams. They focused on source analysis and the ability to tackle the objective questions asked because they found it particularly challenging. To reinforce their understanding, they worked through the quizzes, helping them to feel a sense of confidence for the exams.



GEOGRAPHY

Students revised their work for the upcoming exams. Discussions took place on what to expect in the exams in terms of the kind of questions asked, marks allotted and what to focus on. Students also discussed the climate of Asia and what impacted the temperatures

across the continent. There were also discussions on the type of forest -especially on mediterranean, temperate, equatorial , taiga & tundra.

GRADE 9

ENGLISH

To prepare the Grade 9 learners for their Term 2 Examinations, we worked on revision exercises for the same. We focused a lot on Directed Writing and used an interactive video that served as a guide on how to approach writing a speech or article or letter by aptly incorporating pointers from the provided inserts. They also revised genre transformation to aid them in this process.



MATH

Fostering Problem-Solving Skills through Chapter-Wise Worksheets

To prepare Grade 9 students for their Term 2 Examinations, focused problem-solving sessions were conducted using chapter-wise worksheets. These sessions not only reinforced mathematical concepts but also nurtured critical thinking and analytical skills essential for real-life applications. By tackling structured problems, students developed a deeper understanding of topics while cultivating perseverance and time-management skills. The worksheets also served as a platform to promote collaborative learning, encouraging peer discussions and diverse solution strategies. This initiative highlighted the importance of integrating academics with life skills, ensuring students are well-equipped to face challenges both in examinations and beyond.

PHYSICS

Grade 9 students participated in an engaging Physics revision session, focusing on both theoretical and practical aspects of their curriculum. Key questions were discussed to reinforce learning, providing students an opportunity to clarify their conceptual doubts and deepen their understanding of core topics. A special emphasis was placed on preparing for the Alternate to Practical paper, with a sample worksheet discussed and completed during the session. Students gained valuable insights into approaching such questions effectively, including how to interpret data, analyze results, and present observations with precision. Practical tips were shared to do well in examinations, such as structuring answers clearly, managing time wisely, and double-checking for avoidable errors.

CHEMISTRY

Students in Grade 9 Chemistry delved into the concepts of exothermic and endothermic

reactions. They examined the distinctions between these two types of reactions and learned how to identify them through energy profile diagrams. Following this, they explored the concept of energy change in reactions and practiced calculating bond energies. In addition, the students prepared for their Term 2 examinations.



BIOLOGY

The Grade 9 Biology students explored the digestion process in detail, focusing on both mechanical and chemical digestion. They discussed the components and functions of the alimentary canal, as well as the various biomolecules that are broken down during digestion. The students also engaged in experimental investigations to deepen their understanding. In preparation for their upcoming Term 2 examinations, they revised the material thoroughly.



BUSINESS STUDIES



In a dynamic, student-led presentation, Grade 9 students delved into the world of communication, explaining key concepts such as internal and external communication, media types, and the importance of effective communication. They examined oral, written, electronic, and visual communication methods while exploring factors influencing the best communication choices and strategies to overcome barriers. These activities enhanced their life skills, including public speaking, critical thinking, and ability to give and take feedback in the process.

Students were also introduced to marketing principles and their significance, tackling an engaging Nescafé Japan case study. Through this, they learned how cultural insights and consumer psychology drive marketing strategies. The key takeaway: creating a connection between consumers and products is crucial, as demonstrated by the innovative coffee candy strategy of Clotaire. They were also engaged in focused revision activities in

preparation for Term 2 exams, ensuring a well-rounded understanding of theoretical and practical aspects of topics.

G.P.

Solved IGCSE past papers where the students attempted to answer questions based upon the data provided in the insert. They study Source 3, considering the types of information, sources of evidence and strengths and weaknesses of the claim. Students also attempted to answer questions based upon the data provided in the insert. They study Source 4 based upon two different opinions and try to identify one opinion and a value judgement. Students also dwelled into deciding whose argument is more convincing by considering the strength of their reasoning and evidence, their use of language and the different kinds of information used.

HISTORY

We continued with our understanding of the Cold War: Stalin's desire and felt need for safety and hegemony, events in Greece and Turkey that helped bring about the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan.

We also revised past work. Below we see Hariaum explaining the Turkish crisis involving Russia's access to the Dardanelles Straits and its demand for more territory, and Amaya explaining the line: *'The world was divided into two blocs. And Germany was the divided centre of that world. And Berlin was the divided centre of the divided centre.'*



ECONOMICS

Students explored essential economic concepts, defining monetary policy and inflation. In an engaging discussion, they tackled the thought-provoking question: *Why don't we just print more money to eliminate poverty?* This led to an in-depth explanation of inflation and its impact on purchasing power and the economy.

Students analysed the causes of inflation, including demand-pull and cost-push factors, as well as the role of excessive money supply. Real-world examples enriched their understanding of how unchecked inflation disrupts economies and erodes savings, while deflation presents its own unique challenges. Students engaged in targeted revision activities to solidify their understanding before the Term 2 exams.



GRADE 10

ENGLISH

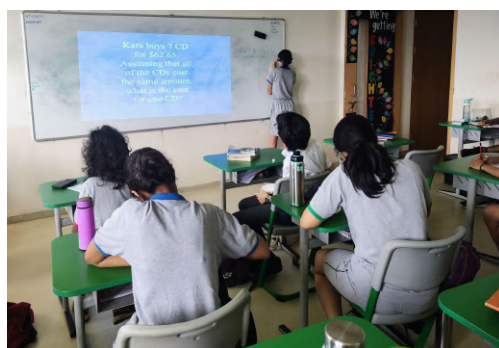
Vocabulary games have been helping students of Grade 10 by making learning engaging and interactive, enhancing their word retention and usage skills. They improve critical thinking,



boost confidence in communication, and promote collaboration. In class, students played a 15-20 minute vocabulary game adapted from *Just One* to reinforce key terms. Groups of 3-7 took turns guessing a word based on unique clues provided by peers. Duplicate clues were erased to encourage creative thinking. By fostering creativity and competition, such games develop a stronger command of language, benefiting students academically and in real-world communication.

MATH

To make IGCSE exam preparation more dynamic, Grade 10 students participated in *Math Jeopardy*, an interactive session that



transformed concept revision into an exciting challenge. Covering various topics of algebra, the activity encouraged teamwork, quick thinking, and strategic decision-making under pressure. By stepping away from routine paper-solving, students engaged in a fun yet educational experience that reinforced their understanding of key concepts while building essential life skills. The enthusiasm and collaboration during the session highlighted how innovative approaches can make learning both enjoyable and impactful, boosting confidence as students prepare for their upcoming exams.

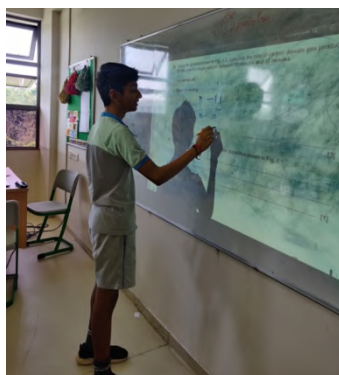
PHYSICS

Grade 10 students participated in an intensive Physics revision session aimed at enhancing their exam preparedness. The session began with students attempting theory and MCQ papers within a set time frame, honing their time management and answer-writing skills. A dynamic peer teaching-learning session followed, where roles were reversed—students presented their answers and engaged in peer review to mark the papers. This interactive approach helped them understand the marking scheme, identify common mistakes, and learn how to present answers effectively to maximize scores. Topics and concepts requiring further clarity were revisited and explained in detail, ensuring a stronger grasp of the subject matter.



CHEMISTRY

Grade 10 Chemistry students have been hard at work preparing for their upcoming prelims. They've been practicing with past papers under timed conditions, followed by a thorough review of the marking scheme. This process includes addressing any questions and revisiting key concepts to strengthen their understanding.



BIOLOGY

Grade 10 Biology students have been diligently preparing for their upcoming prelims by working through past papers within the allotted time. Afterward, the marking scheme was reviewed, and any questions were addressed, along with revisiting specific concepts.



BUSINESS STUDIES

Grade 10 Business Studies students participated in interactive revision sessions, including Business scenarios, case-based analyses, and timed quizzes. These activities enhanced their analytical thinking and readiness to tackle structured and extended response questions effectively.



G. P.

Solved IGCSE past papers where the students attempted to answer questions based upon the data provided in the insert. They study Source 3 considering the types of information, sources of evidence and strengths and weaknesses of the claim. Students also attempted to answer questions based upon the data provided in the insert. They study Source 4 based upon two different opinions and try to identify one opinion and a value judgement. Students also dwelled into deciding whose argument is more convincing by considering the strength of their reasoning and evidence, their use of language and the different kinds of information used. They also worked upon their Group Project.

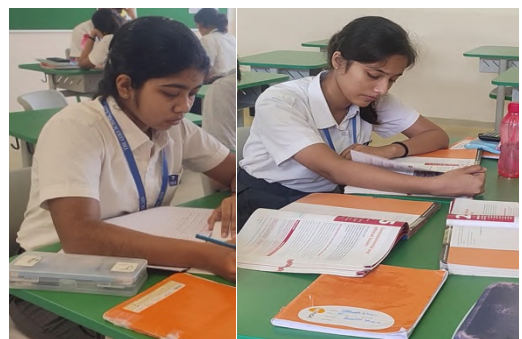
HISTORY

Revision sessions in Grade 10 have been highly effective in preparing students for their History preliminary exams. By working through past papers, students have gained valuable practice in answering different question types and improved their time management skills. Class discussions provided opportunities to clarify doubts, exchange ideas, and deepen their understanding of key historical topics. These interactive sessions have not only reinforced knowledge but also boosted students' confidence, ensuring they feel more prepared and equipped to tackle the challenges of the upcoming exams.



ECONOMICS

To prepare for the Prelims, Grade 10 students reviewed key economic concepts through structured activities like past paper practice, case study analysis, and mind mapping. These strategies helped strengthen their analytical skills and ensured a thorough understanding of core topics.



This brings us to the end of this Newsletter. The next Newsletter will be for the period 25th November to 21st December 2024 which you will receive in January 2025.

Regards

The Gera School