



The Gera School Newsletter

23rd November 2024

(Nursery – Grade 5)

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 that 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 for the ones who give them so much without knowing it!

LOGIQIDS EXAM

On Thursday, 21st November, Grades 1 to 9 answered the First Stage of the LogiQids Exam, which primarily assessed their critical thinking and problem-solving abilities.



PRIMARY HINDI ELOCUTION

The Hindi Elocution event was a delightful and enriching experience for the learners, where finalists from various Houses participated with boundless enthusiasm. Each finalist selected their poem through a chit-draw and dedicated time to prepare it within their respective Houses and the school. Representatives from Grades 1 to 5 recited poems in Hindi. The selection round was open for all the students in Primary. On stage, their vibrant and heartfelt performances reflected their love for the language and a growing sense of self-assurance.



Congratulations to the Winners!

Grades 1, 2 & 3

1st Place: Anaira Aggarwal

2nd Place: Revansh Rathore

3rd Place: Navya Sawant & Trayee Walawalker

Grades 4 & 5

1st Place: Anaisha Salgaonkar

2nd Place: Arwa Sayed

3rd Place: Vihaan Rajesh

PRIMARY GRADES 4 & 5 FOLK TALE NARRATION COMPETITION

What a wonderful finale to The Inter House Competition on Dramatic Narration of Indian folk tales. These stories connect individuals to their roots and cultural identity. They serve as a reminder of communal history and the unique heritage of various regions and communities in India. Folk tales are entertaining, captivating audiences with their intriguing plots, humour and vibrant characters. Storytelling enhances language skills. Narrating tales during this event helped improve vocabulary, comprehension and linguistic abilities among listeners, particularly children.

Congratulations to the Winners!

1st Place: Anaisha Salgaonkar

2nd Place: Asher D'Souza & Anaitha



EARLY YEARS TALENT SHOW



Our Early Years Talent Show was a truly remarkable celebration of creativity, confidence, and youthful exuberance. The event provided the perfect platform for our young stars to showcase their unique talents, leaving the audience impressed and thoroughly entertained. From melodious singing and graceful dancing to impressive martial arts displays and enchanting magic tricks, each child brought their own spark to the stage. The atmosphere was alive with joy and excitement, as the little performers beamed with pride, demonstrating not only their remarkable skills but also their growing confidence. Events like these are a testament to the boundless potential of our children, fostering self-expression, resilience, and a spirit of celebration.



NEWS FROM THE SPECIALISTS

MUSIC

NURSERY



Students engaged in action-based songs, bringing words and music to life through movement. Using the song *In the Jungle* from *The Lion King*, they acted out different animals, mimicking their sounds and movements. In response to a request, a spontaneous song about dinosaurs was created especially for the Nursery class. Students also had the opportunity to explore the notes and sounds on the keyboard, gaining hands-on experience with music.

LKG

LKG students practised their rhythmic exercises through call-and-response activities, focusing on listening and playing. They used chants in different rhythms to explore loud and soft voices, as well as fast and slow tempos. With the help of the djembe, they further explored these exercises, enhancing their understanding of rhythm.



UKG

UKG students were taught the song *Hole in My Bucket*. Although it took some time, they eventually grew to love singing it. The students were divided into groups and performed the song, which features call-and-response elements, and actions, and engages their thought processes. The song also introduced students to the concept of time signatures, as it is set in $\frac{3}{4}$ time, commonly known as a waltz.



GRADE 1

Grade 1 has had some extensive music classes. They have finished learning a beautiful song, Pearly Shells and also use their own movements while singing it. In percussion class, the students are practising their note values using clapping games. The students are now learning about the melodic scale and have been given time to explore the notes on the keyboard. They are being taught how to find the Middle C note and play up and down the major scale.



GRADE 2



With the help of the song, Down By The Bay, the Grade 2 students had the experience of writing their own lyrics to the song. They were first taught the song and then asked to write their own endings. Many of the students have written fabulous and very witty endings. This was then showcased in the class. Grade 2 has now moved into melodic and vocal exercises.

GRADE 3



Students of grade 3 have finished with their note values with beats and have now moved on to melody and the major scale. Those students that are well versed with beats, helped their friend complete their exercises in their theory books. We have now moved on to learning the placement of the melodic notes and singing the scale using vowels and other exercises. Students also have enjoyed outdoor percussion sessions. In percussion, they had the opportunity to lead and follow, an exercise where one child leads with his beat and the other follows and vice-versa.

GRADE 4

Students of Grade 4 learned about instruments commonly used in country music, including the banjo, mandolin, pedal steel guitar, harmonica, double bass etc. We also had a quiz where students had to listen to the sound of the instrument and try and figure out what instrument it was.



Students watching a video on instruments commonly used in country music



Students singing their favourite country songs

In music theory, we have been understanding rhythms with crotchets and quavers. To better understand this, we used simple poetry rhythms. Students also had to write their own poems and add the correct rhythms to it.



Students doing their music theory work

Besides this, students have begun to explore time signatures. We further explored their understanding through a fun game, where students had to sing and walk in a circle while a group of notes would be written on the board. When the music stopped, they had to form groups of 2, 3 or 4, depending on what the time signature was.



Students playing the time signature game

GRADE 5

Students of Grade 5 learned about instruments commonly used in country music, including the banjo, mandolin, pedal steel guitar, harmonica, double bass etc. We also had a quiz where students had to listen to the sound of the instrument and try and figure out what

instrument it was.



Students watching a video on instruments commonly used in country music

Students also continued exploring beat and rhythm with a fun Halloween-themed song “Pass the witch’s broomstick”. Through this, we explored quaver and crotchet rhythms and also learned to hold a beat. We then turned the song into a fun game, where students learned to keep a steady beat.

DANCE

NURSERY

Through fun dance activities and songs like *7 Jumps* and *Listen and Move*, Nursery students explored the beats and rhythm of songs. In the last dance session, they tried the *Birdie Dance*. Since the children were too young to attempt a right-arm swing, it was replaced with an open-hold swirl. The children thoroughly enjoyed dancing with a partner. They were amused when the rhythm of the song changed to a slow tempo and grew excited as the tempo became faster and faster.



LKG

LKG dance sessions encouraged children to explore movements that were flowing, smooth, sustained, sharp, or sudden, helping them understand the element of energy in dance. Students took turns dancing like robots with sharp, sudden motions, flamingos with flowing and smooth movements, cheetahs, and more. Their expressions and creative movements were both entertaining and surprising to witness. The rest of the class eagerly

followed and imitated these movements to the best of their ability, making the activity lively and engaging.



UKG

UKG students were taught step-touch footwork, which they practised along with four different upper body and arm movements: clap, roll, reach, and grab. This



simple choreography was introduced with an 8-count structure to help them develop a better understanding of counts in dance. Remembering the set choreography and keeping the beat were key focuses of these dance sessions, helping students enhance their coordination and rhythm.

GRADE 1

Students of Grade 1 spent our latest sessions auditioning for an upcoming Inter-house dance competition and selections were made after



considering their ability to recall and perform dance routines that we have been learning in class for a sustained period of time. We also learned to dance to a Konkani Song, “Ya ya maya ya” to practise and develop our sense of rhythm.

GRADE 2

Likewise, students of Grade 2 spent our latest sessions auditioning for an upcoming Inter-House dance competition and selections were made after considering their ability to recall and perform dance routines that we have been learning in class for a sustained period of time. In addition, Grade 2 spent time learning how to work as a team and improve their synchronisation in order to dance together as they will require this skill for the upcoming group dance category, too.



GRADE 3

After completing their auditions for the forthcoming dance competition, Grade 3 students continued their foray into Barn Dancing with a new



dance called the Big Mountain Circle dance. Students quickly realised that missing the dance count and not keeping the rhythm resulted in chaos on the dance floor. A simple dance but a very smooth flowing dance, the Big Mountain circle challenged the students who were still not sure about distinguishing their right from their left. Students are required to know how to perform all these movements.

GRADES 4 & 5



The students of Grades 4 and 5 are also learning the Big Mountain Circle Dance . This lively dance requires the students to be quick with their steps and sure with the beat. As the caller calls out the different instructions, the students must perform these simple moves that they have learned from the previous dances but in a different sequence. For example; the first has to skip in a circle holding hands(left and right), do a right-handed star turn, do-si-do, right elbow swing, forward and a bow etc.

DRAMA

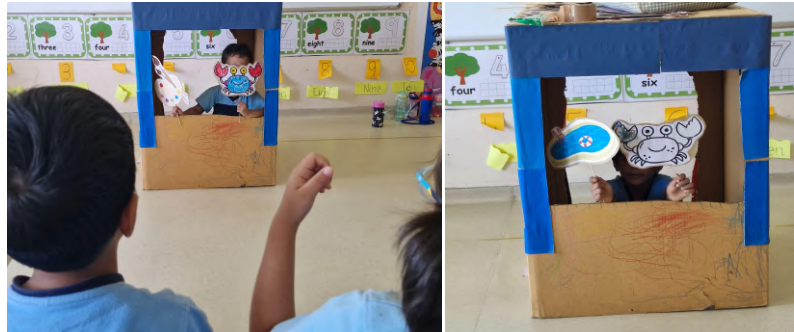
NURSERY

This week in drama class, our little stars explored the magic of dramatized storytelling! Through stories, drama energizers, and role-playing, they learned to express emotions and

bring characters to life. The children discovered their confidence and creativity through these engaging and fun drama activities.

LKG

Our budding performers had an exciting week in puppet drama class! The children learned to bring their stick puppets to life with imaginative scenes, creative voices, sentences, and playful interactions. They explored expressing themselves through words and emotions, building confidence while having endless fun.



UKG

UKG children immersed themselves in the world of dramatized storytelling! They enthusiastically acted out various stories, using expressive gestures, body movements, voices, and creativity. The children were encouraged to work together as a team and communicate effectively with each other. Through these activities they learned to problem-solve, and grew in confidence, communication skills, and a love for performance.

GRADE 1

Our Grade 1 students dived into the exciting world of improv acting! Through fun drama energisers and spontaneous scenarios, they explored quick thinking, teamwork and creative expression. The students showcased their imagination and humour, creating delightful mini-performances on the spot. The students are exploring the use of props to enhance their acts. We can't wait for the next class!



GRADE 2

Our Grade 2 students delved deeper into the art of improv acting while learning the importance of drama discipline. Through creative exercises and spontaneous mini-performances, they enhanced their imagination, focus and teamwork. The students also practised essential Drama etiquette, such as active listening, adapting to various situations, taking turns,



problem-solving and staying in character. It's wonderful to see their creativity flourish alongside their growing sense of discipline and teamwork!

GRADE 3

Grade 3 students took their improv acting skills to the next level while embracing the principles of drama discipline. Through engaging exercises and spontaneous mini-performances, they sharpened their imagination, focus and most importantly teamwork. The



students were paired up and encouraged to communicate effectively as they enacted various fun scenarios. They also practised key drama etiquette, including active listening, adapting to different scenarios, taking turns, showing empathy, and staying in character.

GRADES 4 & 5

What a wonderful finale to The Inter-House Competition on Dramatic Narration of Indian folk tales. We enjoyed connecting individuals to their roots and cultural identity, exploring social issues and enhancing language skills, all the while having fun, removing stage fear and improving vocabulary, comprehension and linguistic abilities among listeners.



Far right is a picture of Warm-up exercises: they are always fun as they stimulate creativity for the lessons to follow.



ART

NURSERY

Nursery kids had a wonderful time with craft activities, where they were given pre-cut shapes to assemble and create their own colourful fish. Using their creativity, they glued the various shapes onto paper, carefully arranging the parts to form different fish designs. This hands-on activity helped them develop fine motor skills, spatial awareness, and an understanding of shapes, all while having fun creating their vibrant fish masterpieces.



LKG



LKG students had a great time assembling craft papers to create their own construction structures. Using pre-cut pieces, they designed and built a variety of architectural creations, including houses, buildings, row villas, and even commercial structures. This hands-on activity allowed the children to explore shapes, sizes, and spatial organization while fostering their creativity. They thoroughly enjoyed the process of putting together their unique designs, all while developing important skills in construction, coordination, and imaginative play.

UKG

UKG students had a great time assembling craft papers to create their own construction structures. Using pre-cut pieces, they designed and built a variety of architectural



creations, including houses, buildings, row villas, and even commercial structures. They also created a whole town, with multiple pieces to show level 1 and 2 structures, as well as

adding land. This hands-on activity allowed the children to explore shapes, sizes, and spatial organization while fostering their creativity. They thoroughly enjoyed the process of putting together their unique designs, all while developing important skills in construction, coordination, and imaginative play.

GRADE 1



In Grade 1, students had fun learning how to draw a ship step by step, guiding them through the process with simple instructions. They enjoyed bringing their ships to life by adding colourful details, experimenting with different colours for the ship and its sails. To enhance their artwork, they also created imaginative backgrounds, illustrating various scenes like the ocean, sky, or even a sunset. This activity helped them develop their drawing and colouring skills while sparking their creativity in creating unique, vibrant scenes around their ships.

GRADE 2



Grade 2 learners explored the art of Origami by creating beautiful tulips. Step by step, they folded red and green paper to form delicate flowers and stems, bringing their creations to life. This hands-on activity helped them develop fine motor skills, patience and a sense of achievement as they admired their lovely paper tulips!

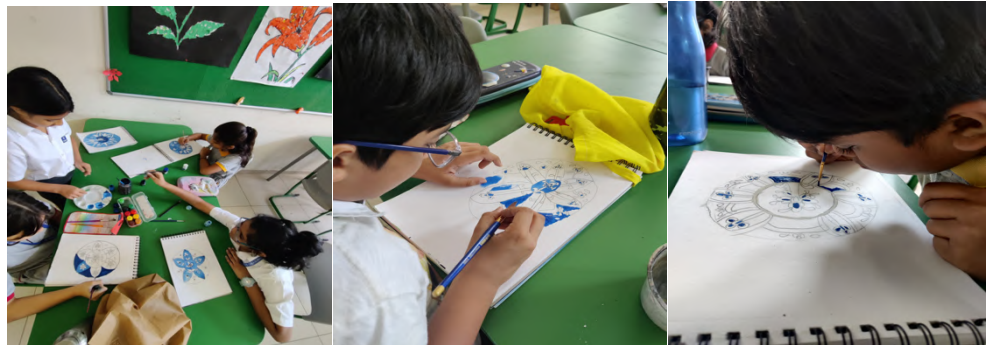
GRADE 3

Grade 3 learners showcased their creativity_ by learning how to make adorable origami bookmarks. Following a step-by-step process, they folded vibrant paper into shapes resembling tigers, rabbits, roosters and frogs. Adding details like ears, eyes, and unique patterns, the students brought their creations to life. This fun and interactive activity not only honed their crafting skills but also encouraged a love for reading with their handmade bookmarks!



GRADE 4

Grade 4 learners had the opportunity to discover the exquisite art of Indian blue pottery, renowned for its vibrant hues and intricate



patterns. They delved into the history behind this traditional craft and expressed their creativity by replicating some of its stunning designs. This hands-on activity gave them a deeper appreciation for this unique form of Indian art.

GRADE 5

Grade 5 students engaged in a creative visualization art activity centered around the theme of a lotus, allowing their imaginations to flourish. They explored how to use acrylic paints to create beautiful gradients and a range of shades, learning to mix colours and apply them with precision. By focusing on line composition, students experimented with different types of lines to structure their lotus artwork, enhancing its form and movement. This activity not only helped them improve their technical skills with



acrylics but also encouraged them to think creatively and express their individual interpretations of the lotus in vibrant and imaginative ways.

CIRCLE TIME / LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

GRADE 1



This fortnight, our Grade 1 students explored the topic "*All Opinions Matter*," fostering creativity and critical thinking. We began with an engaging activity where students shared their favourite animals through drawings or words and proudly displayed their choices on an opinion chart. This was followed by reading a story to highlight differing perspectives. The students eagerly shared their thoughts, listened to each other and showed respect for different views, demonstrating impressive creativity and open-mindedness during discussions.

GRADE 2

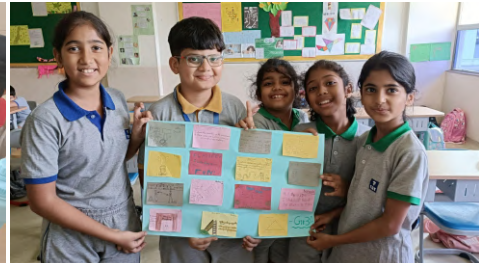
This fortnight, Grade 2 delved into "*All Opinions Matter*" with an engaging activity on "*The Best Invention*." Students drew and wrote about their favourite inventions, explaining why they considered them the best.

They showcased creativity and thoughtfulness in their responses and confidently presented their opinions to the class, fostering an environment of mutual respect and new ideas.



GRADE 3

This fortnight, Grade 3 learners explored the topic *"All Opinions Matter"* through a creative activity called *"The Best Invention."* Students selected and wrote about what they considered the most impactful invention and shared their reasons with the class. The students showcased their critical thinking and demonstrated respect for differing perspectives, highlighting the importance of listening as much as sharing. The learners of Grade 3 did a group activity where they wrote role plays that had hygiene as a theme. They were extremely cooperative and came up with some innovative ways to get their message across. Giving these youngsters opportunities like this can be a very eye-opening experience. They have the creativity to expand and build on their enthusiasm to make it amazing.



GRADE 4

The learners of Grade 4 were introduced to the concept of personal space. Being able to respect the space of others is a crucial life skill but understanding their own comfort is the first step in ensuring safety. Learners were able to identify the space they were comfortable to be in. We tried the exercise with a number of combinations and the learners were able to experience what was being talked about.



GRADE 5



Grade 5 did an activity on personal space and were able to draw distinctions between the feelings of comfort and discomfort at varying distances from their peers. Some they were partnered up with were close friends while others weren't. Being able to clearly identify how a person's proximity makes them feel is a great first step for them to understand safety.

ICT

GRADE 1



Our enthusiastic Grade 1 learners expanded their knowledge of computers by identifying and naming various additional parts, complementing their understanding of the main components like the Monitor, CPU, Keyboard and Mouse. They delved into the fascinating world of computer architecture, discovering how different parts of a computer are interconnected and work together seamlessly.

GRADE 2

Our Grade 2 learners recently participated in an exciting lab activity focused on exploring the versatile world of spreadsheets. They discovered that Excel is not just a tool for recording data but also a powerful resource for performing calculations and creating visual representations. Through hands-on exploration, the young scientists recorded data, applied mathematical formulas and designed charts to represent their findings visually.



GRADE 3



Our Grade 3 learners embarked on an exciting journey into the world of the online Scratch Tool, sparking enthusiasm and curiosity. They familiarized themselves with the various components of the Scratch interface and gained confidence in navigating and accessing this dynamic platform. As they delved deeper, the learners honed their skills by planning and

coding a quiz program. Using input and output blocks, variables, logical tests, and control structures, they executed their tasks with creativity and precision.

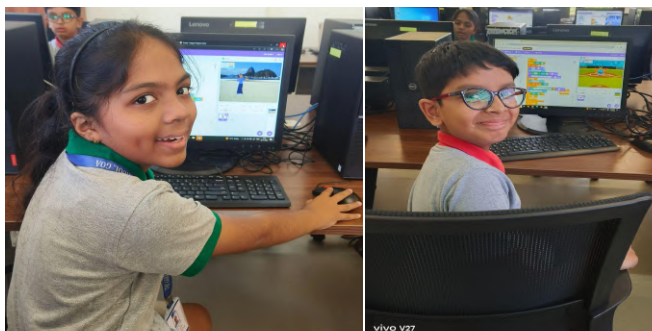
GRADE 4



Our Grade 4 learners honed their problem-solving skills by mastering the use of flowcharts to represent the logical flow of programs, incorporating decision points. They enthusiastically tackled a worksheet to deepen their understanding of algorithms and flowcharts. In addition, the students were introduced to the basics of Scratch, an interactive platform for coding. They explored the online Scratch tool, becoming familiar with its essential components and preparing to bring their ideas to life through creative programming.

GRADE 5

Our Grade 5 students embraced the challenge of solving a worksheet focused on the core concepts of algorithms and flowcharts, enhancing their problem-solving and logical reasoning skills. They also ventured into the world of Scratch, a dynamic platform designed to foster creativity and logical thinking. Learners were introduced to the basics of Scratch, exploring its online interface and familiarizing themselves with its essential components. This hands-on experience sparked their curiosity and laid the groundwork for innovative coding projects in the future.



PRIMARY UPDATES

FRENCH

GRADE 1

This fortnight, Grade 1 learners enthusiastically explored the days of the week in French. They practised spelling and pronunciation while focusing on key vocabulary such as “jour” (day), “semaine” (week), “aujourd’hui” (today), “demain” (tomorrow), and “hier” (yesterday). Phrases like “Il y a sept jours dans la semaine” (There are seven days in a week) added depth to their learning.

A highlight was completing worksheets where they sequenced days (yesterday, today, tomorrow) and filled in missing ones. Building on this, students began identifying and pronouncing the months of the year and practised writing dates in the French format, e.g., “Mercredi, le 27 novembre.” Next fortnight, they will explore French calendars, identifying and marking significant days and dates. This immersive learning will build excitement and foundational language skills.



GRADE 2

This fortnight, the Grade 2 French learners embarked on an exciting journey into French vocabulary, exploring the days of the week and months of the year. They enthusiastically practised spelling and pronunciation while learning essential terms such as *jour* (day), *semaine* (week), *mois* (month), and *année* (year). Engaging phrases like “*Il y a sept jours dans une semaine*” (There are seven days in a week) and “*Il y a douze mois dans une année*” (There are twelve months in a year) enriched their understanding. The highlight was sequencing days “*hier, aujourd’hui, demain*” (yesterday, today, tomorrow) and practicing the French date format, e.g., “*Mercredi, le 27 novembre.*” Students creatively wrote dates linked to birthdays, family milestones and festivals, fostering a deeper connection to the language. Reading French calendars and marking significant dates added fun and relevance. This immersive experience not only built foundational skills but also inspired excitement and curiosity for learning French!



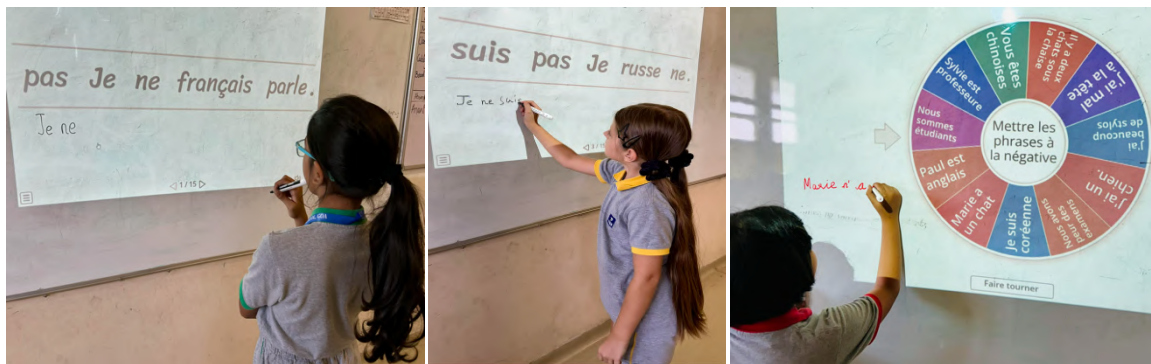
GRADE 3

This fortnight, Grade 3 learners made exciting strides in French grammar and vocabulary! They focused on using the verbs “*avoir*” (to have) and “*être*” (to be) alongside descriptive adjectives like *joli(e)* (pretty), *grand(e)* (big), and *drôle* (funny). Through activities like creating family descriptions, students practised forming sentences such as *J’ai un frère grand* (I have a big brother) and *Mon père est gentil* (My dad is kind).

To reinforce their understanding, students completed worksheets on days of the week and months of the year, with interactive activities to help them recall key vocabulary. They also participated in a Family Description Challenge, where they described their family members using both verbs and adjectives. Students also took part in a Classroom Object Quiz, practising nouns like *le livre* (the book) and *la chaise* (the chair), and learned to use definite articles with these items.



GRADE 4



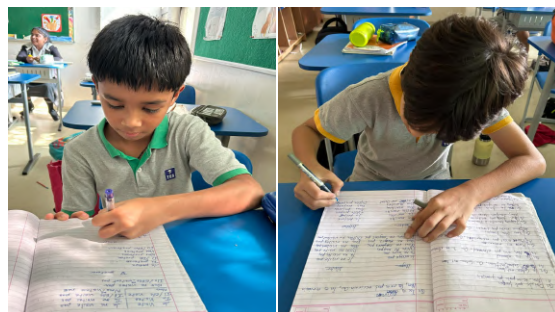
This fortnight, Grade 4 learners focused on adjectives, professions, and regular verbs in French. They explored descriptive adjectives like *joli(e)* (pretty), *grand(e)* (big), and *drôle* (funny), learning to describe people in both masculine and feminine forms. Students practised converting adjectives from singular to plural, constructing sentences like “*Elle est gentille et belle*” (She is kind and beautiful) and “*Ils sont grands et forts*” (They are tall and strong).

They also learned vocabulary related to professions such as *un médecin* (a doctor) and *un enseignant* (a teacher), using these words to form sentences about jobs. Through activities like fill-in-the-blank exercises, students reinforced their understanding of negation (e.g., *Je ne suis pas médecin* - I am not a doctor) and regular -ER verbs (e.g., *manger* - to eat, *partager* - to share). As a result, students had a strong grasp of using adjectives and verbs in a variety of contexts, from professions to everyday activities.

GRADE 5

Grade 5 learners delved deeper into professions in French, learning both the vocabulary and how to use it in sentences. They explored various jobs and their definitions, such as *un avocat* (a lawyer) who *défend les clients* (defends clients), and *le boulanger* (the baker) who *fait des pains et des gâteaux* (makes bread and cakes). Students learned to describe these professions and their roles, practising sentences like *un médecin* (a doctor) *soigne les malades* (treats the sick), and *une enseignante* (a female teacher) *enseigne aux élèves* (teaches students).

To further their understanding, they worked on negation with professions, forming complex sentences such as *J'ai un chien* (I have a dog) and *Je n'ai pas de chien* (I do not have a dog). This helped them practise conjugating verbs in the negative form. Writing activities included creating their own job descriptions using the vocabulary learned, and students conjugated regular -ER verbs like *manger* (to eat) and *partager* (to share) to form both positive and negative sentences about daily activities. This fortnight, students were able to confidently describe different professions and use negation to form more complex sentences in French.



HINDI

GRADE 1

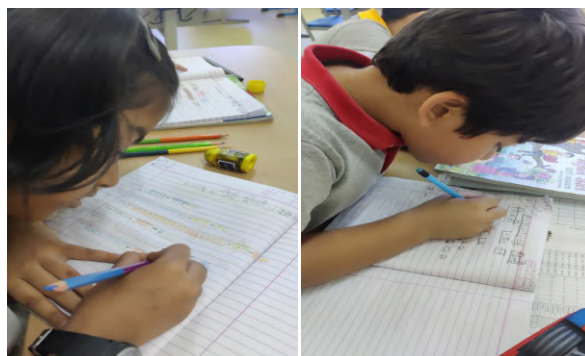
Grade 1 learners participated in engaging activities to enhance their understanding of Hindi consonants (Vyanjan). They used flashcards to recognize and recall consonants, played a sound-matching game to improve recognition, and practised writing in their notebooks. Music-based activities, like vyanjan songs (e.g., "क से कबूतर, ख से खरगोश, ग से गाय"), added fun, while action-



based learning (e.g., flapping wings for क or grazing for ग) engaged kinesthetic learners. They enjoyed creative activities like Vyanjan Pictionary, Bingo and a relay race that focused on writing consonants accurately. The Vyanjan identification game helped them recognize consonants in words (e.g., ब and ल in बिल्ली), while vocabulary-building linked each consonant to related words. These interactive and multi-sensory methods made learning Hindi consonants enjoyable and effective.

GRADE 2

Grade 2 learners explored "र के रूप" in Hindi through engaging activities. They watched a video, identified "र" in words, and observed its impact on pronunciation, enhancing auditory and visual skills. Practice with "र" words improved their reading, writing and focus. Comprehension tasks like "Who said what?" developed critical thinking and expression. Students learned विलोम शब्द (opposites) using



videos, pictures and exercises, fostering creativity, communication and problem-solving while strengthening their Hindi skills. They also played *गिनती का पहेली खेल* (Counting Puzzle Game) to master Hindi counting, solving number puzzles to build critical thinking, reasoning, and memory. Group work promoted teamwork and communication, making learning enjoyable and meaningful.

GRADE 3

Grade 3 learners explored nouns and verbs through interactive activities that reinforced language concepts and life skills like teamwork, critical thinking and creativity. They categorized nouns, pronouns and verbs, explaining their choices to enhance analytical thinking and communication. Sentence creation (e.g., *कुत्ता दौड़ रहा है*) encouraged creativity and decision-making, while fill-in-the-blank exercises improved problem-solving and focus. Matching nouns with verbs (e.g., *किताब - पढ़ना*) fostered collaboration and role-playing verbs (e.g., *सोना - sleep*) boosted confidence and kinaesthetic learning. Associating pictures with nouns and verbs (e.g., *दौड़ना - run*) enhanced observation and vocabulary, enriching their understanding and holistic growth.



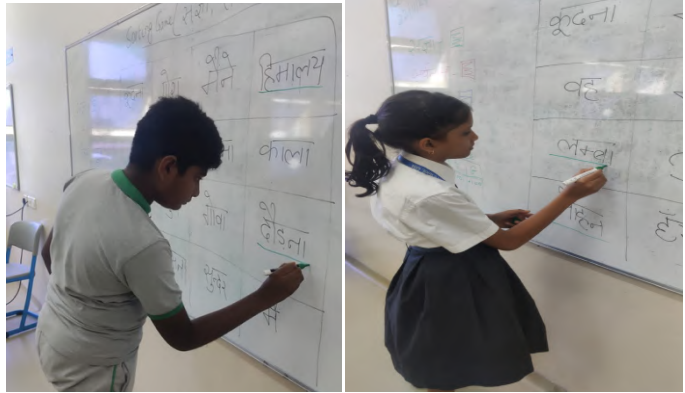
GRADE 4

Grade 4 learners participated in Hindi activities on nouns (*संज्ञा*) and verbs (*क्रिया*) to enhance grammar skills and life skills. Sorting *संज्ञा* (with types), *सर्वनाम*, *क्रिया*, and *विशेषण*, followed by sentence construction, developed critical thinking, organization and communication. They practised transforming *संज्ञा* types to build adaptability, analytical thinking and problem-solving. Story and scene creation using *संज्ञा* and *क्रिया* boosted creativity, storytelling and idea structuring. A *संज्ञा-क्रिया* matching game enhanced memory and cognitive skills, while role-play activities fostered teamwork and confidence. The word-search activity improved focus and attention to detail. These activities enriched grammar knowledge and essential skills.



GRADE 5

Grade 5 learners engaged in interactive Hindi activities on nouns (संज्ञा) and verbs (क्रिया) to enhance understanding and develop life skills. They began by sorting संज्ञा (with types), सर्वनाम, क्रिया, and विशेषण, followed by sentence creation to build critical thinking and communication skills. A sentence relay activity involving these parts of speech fostered teamwork, collaboration and



quick decision-making. A matching exercise संज्ञा (with types), सर्वनाम, क्रिया, and विशेषण, was followed by a writing task. Transforming संज्ञा into various forms with sentence construction encouraged adaptability and analytical thinking. A noun-verb story-building activity promoted imagination, storytelling and problem-solving.

P.E. NURSERY

This week, the children focused on developing their gross motor skills by engaging in activities that required them to control the large muscles of their bodies. They practised



tasks like walking, running, jumping, and throwing, all of which are essential for their physical fitness and overall development. Balancing activities were also introduced, offering a range of benefits. These exercises helped improve the children's physical health, coordination, and stability. Additionally, they boosted mental focus, allowing the children to enhance their overall motor skills while having fun.

LKG

During P.E. class, LKG learners were actively engaged in activities like balancing the cone,

which involved coordinating various body parts. These exercises helped improve their motor skills and enhanced their overall coordination.



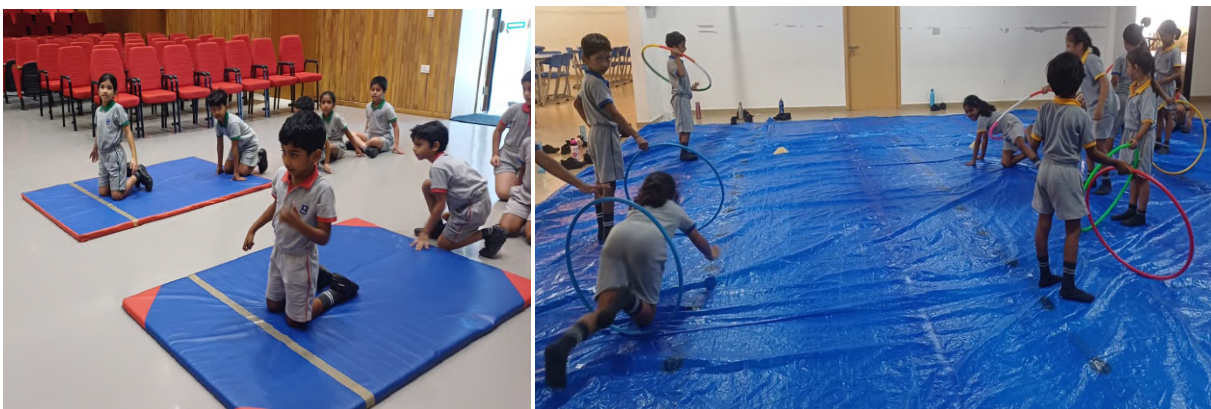
UKG

During P.E. class, learners were engaged in activities that worked their leg, core, and stabilizing muscles as they focused on maintaining balance and propelling themselves. Walking on shoe tins required them to carefully balance while moving forward, which helped improve their coordination and proprioception.



GRADE 1

During P.E. class, learners were actively engaged in activities like throwing events and hula hoop team building activities in which teams must work together, communicate, and strategize to complete the relay efficiently. Also, the activity develops cardiovascular endurance, coordination and agility. With different variations, learners engaged in problem-solving and imaginative play.



GRADE 2

In P.E., learners were engaged with various activities using hula hoops. The activities helped learners to develop and strengthen muscles and improve coordination. Other physical activities like crab football where learners support themselves on their hands and move with their feet, in motion that make them look like crabs helped add the fun element to the class along with improving the balance, coordination and overall functional fitness.



GRADE 3



A tunnel relay is an engaging and a dynamic physical activity where participants pass through or form a "tunnel" as part of a relay race. Crawling through tunnels engaged the core, arm and leg muscles of our learners while improving flexibility and agility. Also during P.E. class, learners were engaged in practicing March Past.

GRADE 4



Basketball involves constant movement, improving heart, health and endurance. Also, dribbling, passing and shooting requires excellent hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills. During P.E. class, learners were actively engaged in maze running which involved participants to navigate through a structured or improvised maze, often under time

constraints or with specific rules. This activity was highly engaging and offered numerous benefits, both physical and cognitive.

GRADE 5



During the P.E. class, learners of Grade 5 were actively engaged in Basketball skills like handling, dribbling and passing in which it allowed players to execute advanced plays and moves. Also Agility and Footwork enhanced both offense (for driving to the basket) and defense (for guarding opponents).

LIBRARY UKG



Action stories: Encouraging students to enjoy the story while performing the actions and sounds was the ultimate aim of this session. They thoroughly enjoyed it.

GRADE 4

Story narration through resources given: This interactive tool assisted in considering

how to
interpret
objects and
how to
understand
social worlds
through stories
people told. It
enabled



students to see the connections between memories and personal biographies. It helped to develop storytelling methods in community, voluntary groups and foster positive connections and conversations.

GRADE 5

Story weaving: This activity demonstrated the art of writing a story through layering. New ideas were developed and interesting plots were presented. Students created an interesting story with many twists and turns. It also developed social and emotional skills. Students got an insight into effective communication, cooperation and understanding of diverse perspectives.



NEWS FROM THE EARLY YEARS SECTION

NURSERY

LITERACY

As Term 2 draws to a close, we've taken the opportunity to revisit and reflect on the progress our Nursery students have made. The children enthusiastically recapped the letters /ck/, /e/, /h/, /r/, /m/, /d/, and /l/ along with their sounds through engaging activities. They participated in a Letter Hunt, explored a



Mysterious Box, and sorted pictures based on their corresponding letter sounds. The students also demonstrated their growing language skills during picture description activities, confidently framing simple sentences in English. Their critical thinking and keen observation were on display during the *Spot the Mistake* activity, where they identified and explained unusual or incorrect elements in the pictures. It has been a delight to witness

their enthusiasm and development throughout the term, and we are excited to see their continued growth in the coming weeks!

NUMERACY

Nursery students had a fun and interactive time exploring the concept of heavy and light. They compared a variety of objects, such as a jar filled with sugar and an empty one, a rock and a leaf, and a heavy book with a cotton ball. The children eagerly categorized the objects into "heavy" and "light" groups, enjoying the hands-on activity. To extend their learning, they took a walk around the school premises, excitedly discovering and comparing heavy and light objects they found along the way. The children also had a delightful time revisiting the number zero through a playful "I Spy" worksheet. They enthusiastically revised ordinal number positions through a brief story recap and had a blast playing a "count and match" game using objects on foam tiles and number cards. These engaging activities kept the children involved, curious, and eager to learn!



UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

The students actively reinforced their understanding of good touch and bad touch through a thoughtful and engaging activity. They identified the "no-touch zones" on the body by placing red dots on outlined images of a boy and a girl, symbolizing areas that should not be touched. The class also explored the role of germs in causing harm when we consume unhygienic food or unclean water. The children

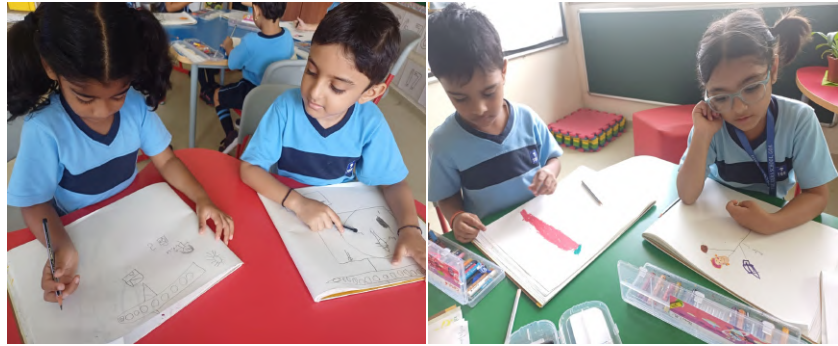


enthusiastically shared their insights and answers, showcasing their understanding of the topic. Their curiosity and application of learned knowledge made the discussion interactive and meaningful for everyone.

LKG

LITERACY

The students of LKG were thoughtfully introduced to a selection of more intricate words, including "we," "are," and "was," to refine their language skills. In parallel, they delved into the letters "Xx" and "Qq," engaging in hands-on writing exercises designed to familiarize them with these new characters. Furthermore, they embarked on an exploration of phonics, particularly the blending of words containing the short vowel sounds "i," "o," and "u," along with their respective word families. This focused practice not only enhanced their understanding of phonetic patterns but also facilitated a considerable expansion of their vocabulary, enriching their linguistic foundation.



NUMERACY

The students of the LKG class have been introduced to the exciting concept of addition. They have also revisited topics like positional words, ordinal numbers, and number quantification. Additionally, they explored and practised measurements, such as length, height, and weight, through engaging activities.



UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

The students of LKG were introduced to the concept of everyday heroes, Bravehearts, and community helpers, learning about the vital roles these individuals play in our lives and the broader community. They explored how these selfless figures contribute to the well-being and safety of those around them. As part of this enlightening lesson, the students engaged in a creative activity where they drew and coloured their favourite superheroes, while also illustrating and colouring various community helpers in their workbooks. This

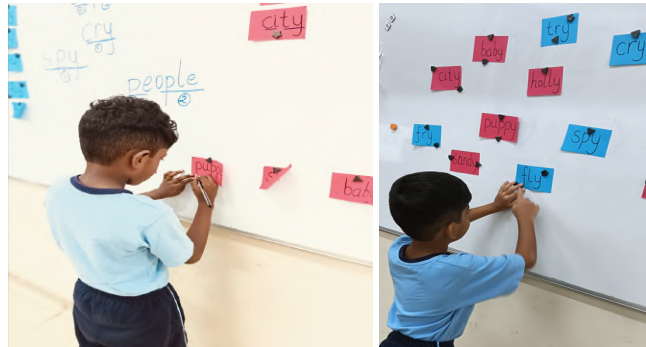
activity not only fostered an appreciation for these important figures but also encouraged the students to express their understanding through art, reinforcing the significance of these heroes in both personal and societal contexts.



UKG

LITERACY

The students of UKG were introduced to the concepts of short and long vowels, such as /ai/, /ee/, /ie/, /ou/, and /ue/, through engaging activities like games and worksheets. They also explored the magic 'e' and the 'y' rule, which are essential tools for improving spelling and word formation. To further enhance their skills, they learned about alternate spellings, such as /ay/ and /ae/ for the /ai/ sound, enabling them to write and spell words with greater accuracy. To consolidate their learning from Term 2, the students participated in various reinforcement activities, including worksheets and interactive games. This process not only developed their phonics skills but also fostered essential life skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration, as they worked through challenges and shared knowledge with peers.



NUMERACY



The UKG class has shown remarkable progress in numeracy skills this term. Building on

their understanding of odd and even numbers up to 10, they successfully learned to sort numbers as odd and even up to 20. The students were introduced to skip counting by 2, 5, and some even grasped skip counting by 10. They also developed the ability to compare numbers as greater than or fewer than. As part of end-of-term revisions, the class reinforced key concepts such as rote counting from 1 to 50, writing numbers 1 to 50, and number spellings 1 to 20. They revisited the fundamentals of ones and tens, reading time, and fractions, ensuring a solid foundation for future learning. The consistent practice and enthusiasm displayed by the students have contributed to their steady progress and readiness for more advanced concepts.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD



The students of the UKG class thoroughly enjoyed exploring the theme of 'Earth' this term. They learned that the Earth is composed of land and water and discovered various landforms such as deserts, mountains, and plateaus, as well as water bodies like lakes, oceans, and rivers. They were fascinated to learn about the different types of rocks found on Earth and their uses. The importance of soil was highlighted, emphasizing how it supports plant growth and is enriched by earthworms and bugs. To showcase their understanding, the students prepared an end-of-the-unit presentation, confidently sharing their knowledge with their friends, and demonstrating both enthusiasm and comprehension of the topics covered.

PRIMARY UPDATES

NEWS FROM EACH GRADE

GRADE 1

ENGLISH



Once upon a time.....these are the magic words that signal the beginning of a story! Our enthusiastic Grade 1 English learners have been diving into the art of storytelling. They've explored essential elements like Characters, Setting, Problem and Solution and have even tried their hand at building stories of their own. Taking it a step further, they ventured into the world of monologues, presenting captivating pieces that brought characters to life. From *Little Red Riding Hood* to *Sang Kancil*, from *Cinderella* to *The Gingerbread Man*, their performances were nothing short of stellar. With expressive delivery and engaging storytelling, they captivated the listeners!



MATH

The learners of Grade 1 were busy exploring the concept of Measurement. They discovered the units of centimetres and metres, using rulers to measure objects around them. From



stationery to larger classroom items, they gained hands-on experience in comparing lengths and deciding when to use centimetres or metres. They found that a pencil might measure around 10 centimetres, while the length of a desk could be closer to 1 metre. This activity helped them understand the difference between the two units, allowing them to see measurement in action. It was all about getting a little closer to understanding the world around them—one centimetre (or metre) at a time.

SCIENCE

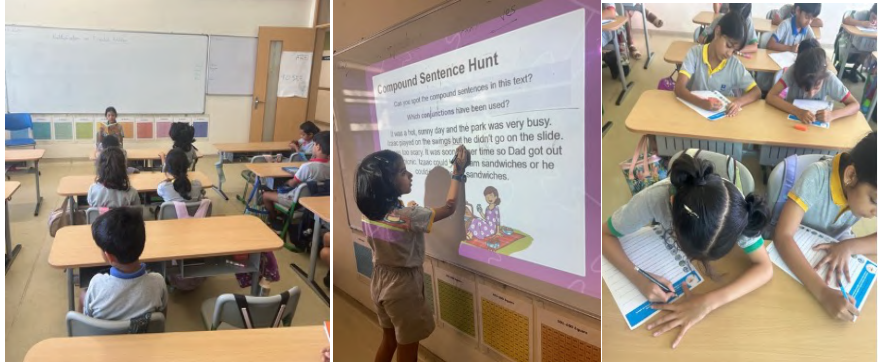
Over the last fortnight, the little learners of Grade 1 have vastly explored the topic of habitats and delivered captivating presentations on the various habitats showcasing their presentation skills, sharing factual information as well



as highlighting the threats posed to these habitats due to human intervention. It was heart-warming to witness young minds think deeply of practical steps that can be adopted to preserve the environment at large by understanding how a little goes a long way. With goals such as re-using materials like paper and plastic and throwing litter in the bin these little minds know that their little steps make a big difference.

GRADE 2 ENGLISH

November has been a month full of adventure and creativity in our Grade 2 classroom! We've been diving into exciting adventure stories, using our imaginations to create brave heroes and thrilling journeys. In grammar, we've explored how adverbs make our writing come alive, and how compound sentences and creative sentence openers help us add detail and excitement. We've also learned how chapters and paragraphs organize our stories into clear, easy-to-follow sections. All of these skills are helping our students become confident writers and storytellers, ready to share their own incredible adventures!



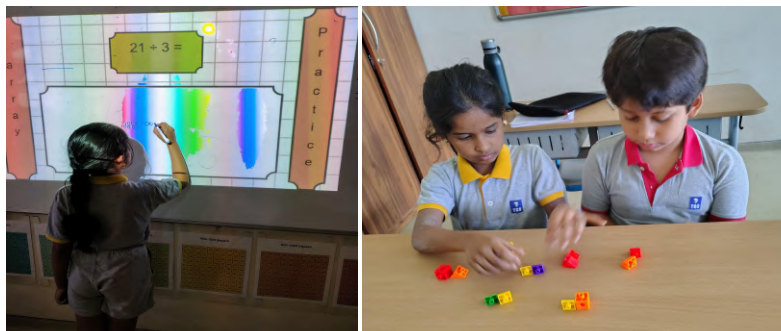
MATH

Our Grade 2 mathematicians have made tremendous progress! They've continued mastering multiplication and have now begun exploring division. Students have learned that multiplication is repeated addition, while division is repeated subtraction. They also understand that division is the reverse of multiplication. Excitingly, they can now multiply 2- and 3-digit numbers by a single digit and divide numbers using the grouping method.

Fun Multiplication and Division Facts:

- Multiplication and division are like best friends—what one does, the other can undo!
- Dividing 20 apples among 5 kids? It's the same as asking: What times 5 equals 20?

"Do not worry about your difficulties in Mathematics. I assure you, mine are greater."
– Albert Einstein
Keep practising and discovering the magic of numbers, young mathematicians!



SCIENCE

Our Grade 2 learners have been revising the intriguing topics of Light and Shadows and plants as living things. They showcased their understanding through presentations and group discussions. With charts and teamwork, they explored concepts like shadow formation, the role of light and water for plants and characteristics of living things.



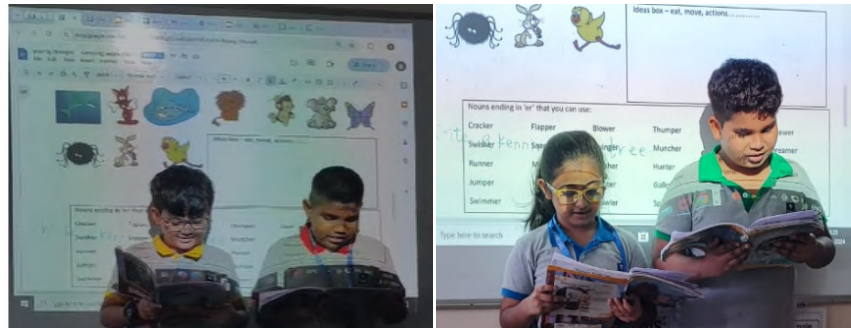
As Carl Sagan once said, “Science is a way of thinking much more than it is a body of knowledge.”

Fun Fact: Did you know that plants can move their leaves toward light, a process called phototropism? Or that shadows are sharp when the light source is close? These hands-on activities have sparked curiosity and nurtured collaboration among our young scientists!

GRADE 3

ENGLISH

Reading descriptive text helps learners understand how powerful verbs and adjectives create imagery. Learners were introduced to descriptive writing and kenning poems to explore their creative writing skills. They explored word classes to see how adding



a prefix and suffix can change the meaning of the word or change the word class itself. For example- Complete/ incomplete /; Boss / bossy. Expanding their knowledge on sentences, they worked with identifying complex sentences and using subordinating conjunctions to extend their sentences. They explored the art of public speaking when they delivered their ideas on “Who inspires me and Why” in Just A Minute; to conclude their Unit on Non-fiction.

MATH

This week, students delved into the concept of Probability, learning how it helps us make sense of uncertainty and randomness in daily life. From understanding the likelihood of rain to deciding if a raincoat is needed, they explored real-life applications of probability, making the lesson both practical and engaging. Later our students explored the fascinating world of fractions, learning how dividing a whole into more parts makes each part smaller. Using circles, they visualized halves, thirds, and quarters, connecting these to everyday

scenarios like sharing a pizza or deciding what fraction of the class is boys. Students actively engaged by placing fractions on a number line, comparing sizes like $\frac{4}{6}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ to

deepen their understanding of part-whole relationships. This hands-on approach made learning fractions relatable and interactive, sparking curiosity and collaboration as they returned refreshed from their winter break!

SCIENCE

Grade 3 students delved into the fascinating world of tsunamis! Through the engaging Dr. Binox video, they learned how underwater earthquakes and volcanic eruptions can displace massive amounts of water, creating tsunamis that travel at incredible speed and grow as they near land. By studying the Chile Earthquake case, students critically assessed disaster responses and explored solutions like early warnings and education. They also compared tsunamis to regular waves and discussed safety tips. This lesson emphasized the importance of preparedness and quick action during such events.



G.P.

Our Grade 3 learners have been exploring ways to make a positive impact in their communities. Through thoughtful class discussions, they prepared action plans detailing who they would like to help and how they plan to do so. As part of their learning, they honed their research skills by using the internet to explore various charities, understanding their missions and how they change lives. This engaging topic has inspired learners to think critically about kindness, empathy and active citizenship.



GRADE 4

ENGLISH

This fortnight, students embarked on a magical journey of 'Myths and Legends.' These are traditional and ancient stories that often involve Gods and supernatural beings. They have been passed down through generations that aim to explain natural phenomena, cultural practices, the mysteries of existence, historical events and moral lessons.

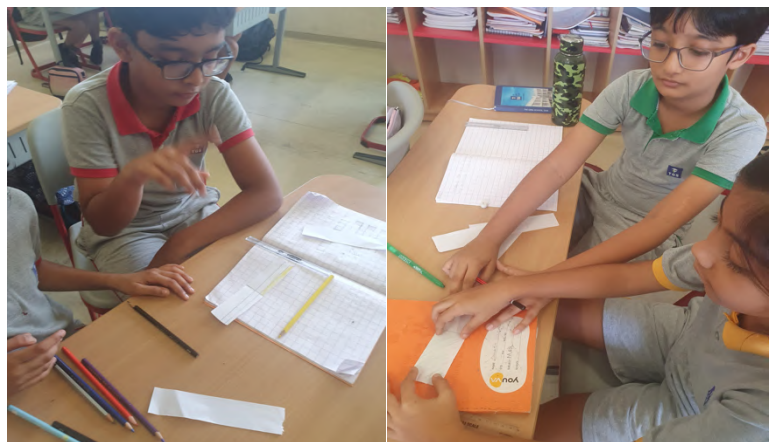
The students also explored the magic and enchantment in 'Fairy Tales.' Fairy tales often feature magical beings like fairies, witches, wizards and objects like enchanted mirrors or wands. Students put on their thinking caps and created fairy tales that concluded with a resolution where good characters were rewarded and villains were punished. The students were also taught the poem, 'Bringing the rain from Kapiti Plain.' This is a beautifully rhythmic and cumulative poem, inspired by the Kenyan oral storytelling tradition. It highlights the relationship between nature, people and animals. It portrays the significance of rain in sustaining life and reflects themes of perseverance, harmony and gratitude. The students explored the poem's sing-song rhythm and rhyming couplets as it creates a musical quality, making it enjoyable for children and easy to remember.

They also learnt and practised punctuation to help their writing have clarity and coherence.



MATH

Grade 4 learners have delved deep into the concepts of multiplication and division, exploring their significance in real-life contexts. Learners explored multiplication as repeated addition and division as the process of equal distribution or finding groups. They practised solving problems involving both operations, enhancing their ability to approach real-world scenarios like splitting a bill among friends or determining the total cost of multiple items. A major focus was on learning how to multiply and divide fractions with whole numbers using model methods. Through visual aids like fraction bars and area



models, students saw the concepts come to life, making abstract ideas tangible and relatable.

SCIENCE

Grade 4 students dived into the fascinating world of *Magnets and Magnetic Force*. Through hands-on investigations, they explored which objects are magnetic and which are not, fostering curiosity and critical thinking. Using magnets and iron filings, students visualized



magnetic fields and learned how magnetic forces can act from a distance. They also conducted experiments to understand the magnetic strength at the poles of a magnet, recording their findings in a tabular format. These engaging activities helped students connect theory with real-world applications, enhancing their understanding of magnetism.

G.P.

This term, our Grade 4 learners have been diving into the fascinating world of personal values and beliefs. They explored how individual opinions shape the greater whole and reflected on where personal beliefs stem from and how they evolve with influence. A key topic of discussion was 'Technology' and its role in influencing our lives in multiple ways. To conclude, learners showcased their creativity through a culminating project, designing innovative pieces of technology aimed at making a positive difference in their lives and communities.



GRADE 5

ENGLISH

Students were trained to prepare and conduct a debate on 'Global Warming' as they learned and understood the concept of debate structure. The students enthusiastically researched and formed arguments on Global Warming. The topic of arguments and debates helps foster critical thinking and public speaking skills.

Students were also trained to understand and identify various 'Figures of Speech' and 'Idioms' and their role in enhancing literary expression. They help develop creative thinking and effective communication skills, enabling them to better interpret and use language in different contexts.

Students learnt how to create 'A balanced report' on the topic of 'Banning of Cars.' This report is a type of written document or presentation that provides an objective and fair account of a subject, event or issue. It ensures that the content is not biased or one-sided by considering multiple perspectives or angles.

These young minds were further taught the importance of punctuation in writing for clarity and meaning. They learnt to identify common punctuation marks and their uses (e.g., period, comma, quotation marks, question marks etc.).



MATH



This week, our Grade 5 mathematicians explored bar charts and dot plots, turning data into colourful stories. From favourite snacks to superhero debates (yes, Spiderman seems unbeatable), your children learned how to collect, represent and interpret data in engaging ways. Bar Charts took centre stage, teaching students to visually compare data—like how pizza effortlessly beat burgers in popularity. Meanwhile, Dot Plots helped us represent smaller data sets with precision, one dot at a time. The class particularly enjoyed plotting their top recess snacks (cookies remain undefeated).

Beyond Math, students practised teamwork, patience, and the joy of asking “Why does everyone love chocolate so much?” They’ve learned how visuals make numbers easier to understand, a skill that connects Math to real life. Up next, Waffle charts and Scatter

graphs—prepare for breakfast-inspired math lesson! Ask them to share their favourite graph from the week, they might surprise you with their newfound expertise!

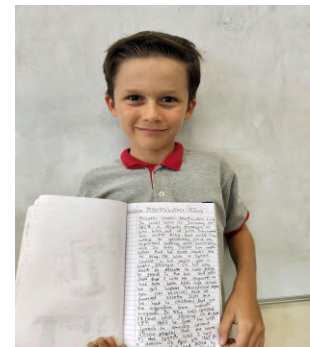
SCIENCE



Do you know what part of the food chain we humans belong to? Different parts, depending on the type of food you eat! For example, if you had a hamburger for lunch, you might be part of a food chain that looks like this: grass→ chicken → human. But what if you had lettuce on your hamburger? In that case, you're also part of a food chain that looks like this: lettuce → human. As this example illustrates, we can't always fully describe what an organism – such as a human – eats with one linear pathway. For situations like the one above, we may want to use a food web that consists of many intersecting food chains and represents the different things an organism can eat and be eaten by. Learners worked in groups, and enjoyed learning by creating their own food chains. They also learned the meaning of the terms: producers, consumers, predators and prey. They were able to identify these from the food chains that they had created.

G.P.

Albert Einstein, Elvis Presley, Nelson Mandela, Barack Obama and Madame Curie. Do these names sound familiar? Why? They are famous people because of what they did or contributed through innovation, perseverance and enlightenment. They have shaped the world as we know it, far transcending their lifetimes. Our learners learned about the lives of Martin Luther King and JRD Tata and went on to choose people they admired who have made a difference to the world as we see it today. They examined the extraordinary lives and enduring influences of these figures, and also shared how each of them could make a difference in the world when they grow up!



In Geography, learners have been presenting the crop they have researched about. It was amazing to see that they were able to describe the things they had investigated in their own terms.



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