



The Gera School Newsletter

25th January 2025

(Nursery – Grade 5)

Dear everyone,

In January, India observes Martyrs Day, the day on which Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated, and a day to honour all the other martyrs of India.

A martyr is someone who is killed for their religious or other beliefs. Dissent and opposition are good things in any democracy. Needless to say, if it is not a democracy or if democratic principles are steadily smothered in a democracy, then dissent and opposition are frowned upon. Indeed, it becomes dangerous to be a dissenter even in not-so-big things. What develops is a you-are-either-with-us-or-against-us thought process.

Is, then, being a martyr a risk that is too much to take? Should one be a martyr at all? Should one either adapt to the times or smother one's conscience and stay low? If people do so, will they later have *any* important beliefs that they will hold on to? Will they like what they become? As a society, will the people be enfeebled? And if it does become so, what are the implications for all?

Let me start small to explain where I am coming from. At TGS, we almost encourage dissent / alternative opinions. All we ask is that it is expressed respectfully. We believe we learn from those who oppose us: they help us refine our thoughts and actions or even strengthen them after reflection. They help us not become arrogant and insensitive – even the minority opinion is important. Through dialogue and the example of those in charge, the dissenter also matures in thought and action, understands other sides of an issue, and learns when to oppose and when to endorse.

'Never shoot the messenger' is a dictum we try to follow always. We remind ourselves that even if TGS were to become a very coveted school, we should always listen to contrarian views and accommodate them to whatever extent feasible. The School community belongs to everyone even though we reserve the right to take the final call.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to have their wards have the courage of their convictions and hold fast to them. They should certainly be taught when to understand to be discreet, when to decide to live to fight another day. But they should be determined in the defence of their beliefs. 'More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of', but oftentimes the onus is on us to nail our colours to the mast and stand there resolutely to defend them. We are the world; we also make the world. I have absolutely no doubt that the lives of many of our students will be paradigmatic for countless others. There will come those times when (because of the influence they will wield, the respect they will command) they may have to be prepared to lose but still go down fighting in the defence of a worthy and noble cause. Let's make them ready for those times.

Regards,

C P Joseph

PRINCIPAL

EVENTS

EARLY YEARS



In January 2025, the Early Years students went on an educational trip organized at Dr Malik's Farm and Goa Aquaworld Adventure. These trips were designed to give our Early Years students enriching, hands-on experiences that promote personal and social development and a greater appreciation for the natural world.

GRADES 1 & 2 EXCURSIONS

The students of Grade 1 and 2 embarked on an eventful outdoor week. On the 7th of January, the young learners visited Choro Island and trekked to a heritage point. They played Lagori, prepared some local dessert and enjoyed a scrumptious lunch which included local delicacies. On the 9th of January the learners visited Tropical Spice Plantation. A walk through the spice plantation enabled them to be introduced to various spices. The learners enjoyed playing some local games as well as eat delicious local meals. For the last day of the excursion week, the 10th of January, the



learners spent the morning watching a movie at School and thereafter enjoyed some games and a buffet lunch at Double Tree Hilton.

GRADES 3 EXCURSIONS

Grade 3 explored the excursion week by watching a Disney Movie, Mary Poppins Returns, followed by a scrumptious lunch at DoubleTree

Hilton,



Kadamba where they were briefed on the etiquette of fine dining. They enjoyed connecting with their friends and playing to their heart's content.

The next excursion had an exciting experience at Nature's Nest, where students immersed themselves in the beauty of nature. They enjoyed trekking through scenic trails, observing a variety of birds in their natural habitat, and relishing delicious local food. The trip provided a perfect blend of adventure and learning, fostering a deeper appreciation for the environment. It was a memorable experience that enriched their understanding of Nature and wildlife.

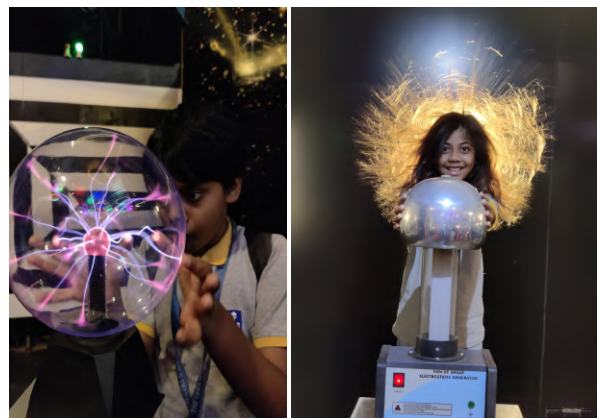
GRADE 4 EXCURSIONS WEEK

8th January 2025

A Day at Thunderworld and Snow Park, Goa.

At Thunderworld, learners delved into the exciting world of Science, exploring fascinating exhibits that sparked curiosity and creativity. From interactive displays to hands-on experiments, the visit encouraged learners to think like budding scientists.

After a delicious and hearty lunch shared together, we headed to the Snow Park, where the chilly wonderland awaited! Learners embraced the snowy adventure by building snow angels, pulling sleds and enjoying a spirited game of snow volleyball. The frosty fun fostered teamwork brought out big smiles.



On 10th January 2025, Grade 4 learners embarked on an enriching trip to NV Eco Farm, Ponda, offering them a blend of nature exploration, sustainable farming insights and adventure activities. The visit began with an immersive farm walk, where students observed diverse plants and trees. A highlight was the Butterfly Garden, where they marvelled at vibrant butterflies in their natural habitat. Another fascinating stop was the Zodiac Garden, where students explored plant arrangements linked to their zodiac signs, gaining insight into traditional beliefs. A key learning experience was witnessing the Feni extraction process, where learners observed traditional methods of cashew fermentation and distillation, enhancing their understanding of Goa's cultural heritage.

Beyond learning, students engaged in pool activities and adventure sports, including wall climbing and zip lining, building confidence and teamwork. The day concluded with a delightful homemade Goan meal, leaving students with a taste of local flavours and cherished memories. Overall, the visit to NV Eco Farm was an unforgettable blend of education, adventure and cultural exploration, enriching the learners with valuable experiences.



GRADE 5 HYDERABAD TRIP

Grade 5 learners embarked on an enriching field excursion to Hyderabad from 7th to 10th January, exploring Nature, History, Cinema and culture.

At Nehru Zoological Park, they observed diverse wildlife, including Asiatic lions, Bengal tigers and Indian elephants, thus deepening their understanding of biodiversity. Their visit to Golconda Fort introduced them to its architectural brilliance and historical significance. The light and sound show beautifully narrated Hyderabad's past, making its history come



alive. The learners explored Ramoji Film City, witnessing grand movie sets and learning about filmmaking.



After visiting the Sudha Car Museum, the learners explored the Salar Jung Museum, home to a vast collection of art, artifacts and antiques from around the world. They then spent a delightful evening at Lumbini Park, enjoying its serene atmosphere. A scenic boat ride on Hussain Sagar Lake, with views of the majestic Buddha statue, provided a peaceful conclusion to the day.



Their adventure continued at Snow World, where they enjoyed snow slides and winter-themed activities. A visit to Shilparamam Arts and Crafts Village allowed them to appreciate India's rich artistic heritage and traditional craftsmanship. The trip ended with a joyful farewell party, celebrating the experiences and friendships made.

This excursion provided valuable learning beyond the classroom, blending education with real-world exploration and leaving learners with cherished memories.

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Gera School celebrated Republic Day with great fervour and enthusiasm. Students across grades showcased the culture, significance and importance of this remarkable day in Indian history. The Grade 2 students captivated the audience with a heartfelt dance performance to the





tunes of *Vande Mataram*, while the Grade 4 students highlighted Goa's vibrant culture through a delightful folk song. Adding a sense of hope and unity, the little ones from LKG and UKG sang *Hum Honge Kaamyab*, filling the atmosphere with joy and inspiration. The programme also featured speeches by students who emphasized the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution. The event concluded with a spirited rendition of the National Anthem, evoking pride and patriotism among all present.

UWL EXAMINATIONS FOR SPEECH AND DRAMA



Students across all sections took the University of West London Examinations for Speech and Drama and delivered exceptional performances. Every participant passed with distinction. Congratulations to all on this outstanding accomplishment!

PRIMARY STUDENT LED PRESENTATIONS

Curiosity has its own reason for existing." – Albert Einstein. The recently held Student Led Presentations showcased a wide array of projects and presentations, with students from Grades 1 to 5 enthusiastically demonstrating their understanding of various scientific concepts and themes. Grades 1 and 2 delved into the fascinating world of habitats, presenting projects that highlighted the beauty of tropical forests, oceans, food chains, plants and their pollinators, as well as endangered and endemic species. Students of Grades 3, 4, and 5 integrated their theme presentations with scientific concepts. Grade 3 explored the wonders of seasons, presenting how weather patterns influence our daily lives. Grade 4 focused on Earth and its habitats, offering insights into the planet's diverse

ecosystems. Grade 5 made some impressive projects with their understanding of heat and temperature, showcasing experiments and models that explained these fundamental concepts in an engaging manner. The event saw an overwhelming response from parents, who were invited to witness the students' projects. The young scientists confidently showcased their discoveries, articulating their ideas with clarity and enthusiasm.



NEWS FROM THE SPECIALISTS

MUSIC

NURSERY

The Nursery students had an eventful fortnight. In Music class, we tried a musical game to foster more participation and cooperation among partners. This involved sitting with a partner and following the tempo of the music and performing actions together. The percussion class also involved paired performance with one of the students taking the lead in playing a pattern for the partner to follow.



LKG

LKG missed a lot of classes due to holidays and excursions. The time we did have music classes, we did the song Miss Lucy had a baby. We also rehearsed the patriotic song 'Hum Honge kamyab' for the Republic Day performance.

UKG

UKG class has started their introduction to basic notations, also an introduction to songs in common 4/4 tempo and $\frac{3}{4}$ tempo. Vocalisation exercises were done and



expression through movement to different tempos and rhythms.

GRADE 1

Grade 1 students had a Karaoke session, singing their favourite songs and the ones they listen to in the car on their way to school or on a drive. They sang some of the most popular and modern songs. We have also started learning songs in different languages, for example, Portuguese, Marathi and Konkani. This is a medley of some popular songs sung at parties and weddings.



GRADE 2

Grade 2 students got an experience of organising a class singing competition. One child was chosen to moderate and conduct the competition. She set out the rules and even gave her feedback on some of the singers who participated.



GRADE 3

Ms Bella from Grade 3A had written a beautiful poem on the Monarch Butterfly. In our music class, we put a tune to this poem. The students learnt the song quickly and loved it. A part of the poem was left to the students to add their version and tune. This was done beautifully and it complimented the rest of the song perfectly.



GRADE 4

This term, students of Grade 4 have been learning Folk Music. Currently, we have been focusing on Goan folk music and students have been enjoying singing in Konkani, which is an unfamiliar language for most of them! We first learned a little more about Goan music, the instruments commonly used, as well as the styles such as mando, dulpod, dekhni etc. The students have learned the famous dekhni “Hanv Saiba Poltodi Vetam”. A few students were selected to perform this song for the Republic Day assembly. We have also started to explore notation in more detail, learning how to read and write the notes C and D, and sing in solfège.



GRADE 5

Students of Grade 5 are learning Folk Music this term. After a quick introduction to the concept of Folk Music and its characteristics, we looked a little deeper into Goan folk music, its various styles, instruments used, etc. Students have started off with the famous dulpod “Undir Mhojea Mama”. Students have also been continuing with their work in the theory workbooks, having learned a few notes and identifying these on the piano.



DANCE **NURSERY**



The Nursery students are dancing with props all this term and presently we have been experimenting with Hats as a prop for dancing. At first the children were shown a dance routine performed with the hat. Using it as a prop, I showed the students various ways in which I could use the hat to create an interesting visual and then the students were given turns to express themselves and try out fun moves with the props. The children enjoyed flipping the hat in the air the most but those that really took the time to creatively explore a new movement other than that, were rewarded with stickers. One student even turned his hat into a cooking utensil and stirred an imaginary mix in time with the music. The children never cease to amaze me.

LKG

The same props were used in the LKG dance class to see what the creative minds in the class could come up with. In addition we also played a dance



game with the hats. This required the children to pass the hat around as the music played but when the music stopped, the student with the hat had to come to the centre of the circle and show the class how to do an interesting dance move using the hat.

UKG

Hats were also used as a prop in the UKG dance class to experiment and explore dance and movement. The dance game that we later did required the students to follow the actions of a secretly appointed leader in the team and the others had to guess who the leader was by watching the performance closely.



GRADE 1



Students in Grade 1 are learning basic Ballet movements. The class starts with a ballet-based warm up and so far we have been working on our Plies and Tendus. We have learned how to stand in 1st and 2nd position Ballet and do Demi and Grande Plies as well as Releve in these two ballet positions. To help the students remember these terms and postures and in order to make Ballet a little more fun for them, we play dance games or dance activities. Grade 1 played Simple Simon says... do the ballet movement. We also played passing the hat around and whoever it landed on, had to do a ballet move that I requested. The students who did the movement correctly were rewarded with a little prize and those that could not were corrected and taught the proper dance posture.

GRADE 2

Students of Grade 2 are also learning Basic Ballet movement in their dance class but they also practised for the Republic Day Assembly where they worked hard to create formations depicting the National flag, National bird and National flower as they danced to Vande Mataram.



GRADES 3, 4 & 5

Students are learning Hip Hop in Term 3 and we have been concentrating on our foundational movements of the Rock and the Bounce. Students



have also been taught various Old School Hip Hop dance moves like the Stomp, The Montgomery, the ATL Stomp, the Bart Simpson, the Running Man, the Heel/Toe or Happy Feet and Criss Cross. Students are developing on these steps and this shall grow with each dance class.

DRAMA

NURSERY

The Nursery, children are exploring creativity through a drama project called *Build a Character and act it out !* They're discovering new ways to express themselves, using props, role-play, and storytelling. It's all about exploring imagination and building confidence.



LKG

The LKG children are diving into dramatic storytelling activities with mini dialogues we are, exploring and learning to use props creatively to enhance characters and bring scenes to life.



UKG

The UKG children have been eagerly participating in drama activities, exploring improvisation through engaging IMPROV exercises like 'This is A,' '1/2/3,' and 'Act.' These activities spark creativity, build confidence, and encourage quick thinking in a fun, interactive way. The children also explore and try various appropriate gestures, vocal tones and expression



GRADE 1

The Grade 1 students are exploring the exciting world of improvisation! Through engaging drama activities like *This is A*, *Whoosh!*, and *And Scene*, they use props to bring characters and scenes to life while refining their drama skills. Each child steps into the spotlight, showcasing their ability to express emotions, use gestures and vocal tones and craft sentences, all while developing spatial awareness, empathy, confidence and imagination.



GRADE 2

Grade 2 students love improv drama activities like *Woosh*, *1/2/3 Act*, and *This is A*. Using props and guided prompts, they each get a chance to express themselves creatively. During Partnering Up, they collaborate to bring everyday life scenes to the stage, building teamwork, expression and imagination.

GRADE 3



Grade 3 students are thrilled to explore improv drama activities where creativity takes the spotlight! Using props, they make their scenes and stories more engaging. Through fun games like *Woosh*, *1/2/3 Act*, and *This is A*, they're learning and applying theatre skills while boosting quick thinking, teamwork and imagination. These activities help them build confidence, express themselves and enjoy the process of learning.



GRADES 4 & 5



Another round of fun sessions with finger puppets happened in Grade 4 and 5! The students benefited a lot particularly when it came to developing their creativity, fine motor skills, boosting their confidence, enhancing their communication skills, promoting emotional expression and empathy and even in certain professional or therapeutic settings.

ART NURSERY

In our nursery class, the children had a fun and creative day! They made vibrant kites using blue and red paints, carefully adding circles as embellishments to give their kites a colourful touch. Alongside the kite-making, the children also enjoyed free expression artwork, where they could explore their imaginations and create anything they felt inspired to. It was a wonderful mix of guided craft and open-ended creativity, allowing the little ones to express themselves in unique ways!



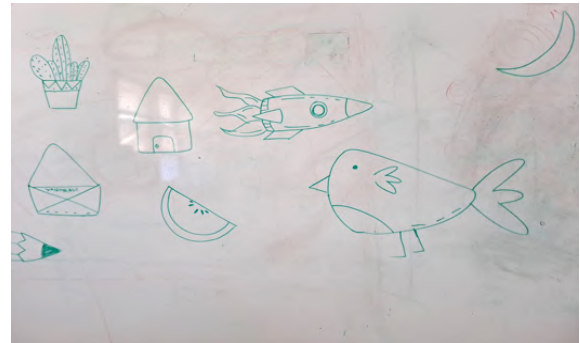
LKG

Children had a delightful time creating kites as part of their craft activity. They enjoyed sticking different-sized parts together, carefully choosing the right pieces to make their kites look just perfect. It was wonderful to see the children's concentration and excitement as they engaged in this hands-on activity, developing both their fine motor skills and creativity. It was a lovely, fun-filled session for everyone!



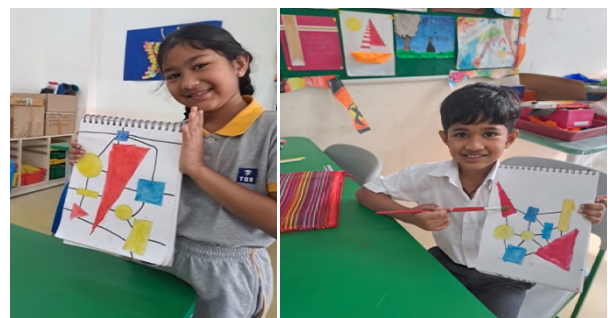
UKG

In UKG, the students had a fantastic time creating beautiful kites using a two-layer and overlapping technique they recently learned. This technique helped them add depth and texture to their kites, making them look extra pretty! For the second activity, the children focused on observational drawing. They carefully observed shapes drawn on the board and worked on understanding lines and how to form different objects. It was a great opportunity for them to enhance their drawing skills and explore their artistic abilities!



GRADE 1

The students of Grade 1 had a great time learning about the primary Colour Scheme—Red, Blue and Yellow. They explored how to use these colours to create simplified geometric forms, like circles, squares and triangles and understood how to balance them in their artwork. The students also learned about the concept of Space and how repeating colours can help create balance in their compositions. It was a fun and an engaging way for them to develop their colour recognition and composition skills while experimenting with basic shapes and patterns!



GRADE 2

Grade 2 learners had a delightful experience learning to draw a peacock step by step. Through guided instructions, they created vibrant and detailed peacock illustrations, showcasing their creativity and newfound skills.



GRADE 3

In Grade 3, the students had an exciting time learning how to create a Monarch Butterfly! They explored the butterfly's intricate patterns and beautiful colour scheme, paying close attention to its distinct orange, black and white markings. As part of the activity, the students also learned about animal forms, observing how the butterfly's body is shaped and how it relates to other creatures in the animal kingdom. It was a wonderful blend of Art, Science and creativity as they brought this fascinating insect to life through their artwork using specific colour schemes.



GRADE 4

Grade 4 learners explored the principles of unity and balance in art through an engaging craft activity. Using vibrant colours and geometric shapes, they created stunning compositions that showcased harmony and visual balance. This hands-on project allowed them to understand how elements work together to create a cohesive and an appealing artwork.





GRADE 5

In Grade 5, the students delved into the work of the famous artist Gustav Klimt, exploring his unique style and intricate designs. They focused on his iconic "Tree of Life" theme, analyzing the patterns, shapes and symbolism in his artwork. As part of the lesson, the students experimented with watercolours to recreate similar patterns and designs, incorporating the flowing curves, golden swirls and rich textures Klimt is known for. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to understand his artistic vision while practicing their own creativity and attention to detail!

In addition to their art lessons, Grade 5 students also participated in creating decorations for Republic Day. They carefully cut and shaped green paper to be used in the decorations, contributing to a vibrant and festive atmosphere for the event. Their attention to detail in crafting these pieces added a special touch to the overall celebrations, and it was a great way for them to engage in both creative expression and cultural activities!



CIRCLE TIME / LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

GRADE 1

In Grade 1, we began the New Year with a reflective activity where students thought about their proudest accomplishments from last year and shared one piece of advice they'd give



themselves for the year ahead. This meaningful discussion encouraged them to think about self-improvement and set positive intentions, fostering self-awareness and growth in a fun and an engaging way.

GRADE 2

Grade 2 enthusiasts started the New Year by sitting in a circle, closing their eyes and reflecting on their proudest moments from the past year. They shared thoughtful advice they would give themselves for the year ahead, sparking meaningful conversations about self-improvement and growth. It was a heartwarming activity that encouraged positivity and mindfulness.



GRADE 3

In Grade 3, students kicked off the New Year with a reflective Circle Time, sharing moments from the past year that made them proud. With eyes closed, they envisioned how they could grow and improve, offering thoughtful advice to themselves for the year ahead. The activity sparked engaging conversations and set a positive tone for what's to come!

Leadership Curriculum:

The learners of Grade 3 are still exploring the very important topic of 'Bullying'. Over the years, we have spoken about what bullying is, how to identify it and what to do about it. This year, we thought it was essential that learners reflected on their own behaviour to ascertain if there were times when they bullied others. If they did realise that there were some behaviours that they indulged in that hurt others, they were given strategies to identify and overcome them.



GRADE 4



This fortnight, the learners of Grade 4 delved into the topic “Forms of Bullying”, understanding that bullying meant more than physical and verbal overt behaviour. Learners also spoke about Cyberbullying and Social bullying. A number of our learners play online games and they realised that very often they encounter language and communication that are derogatory and hurtful. These discussions are an eyeopener for the adults as we seldom have the awareness of what they are exposed to.

GRADE 5

This fortnight the learners of Grade 5 answered the question, “What would I want to improve about myself and why?” followed by a paired interaction where learners gave each other a



compliment and then some feedback on what they thought they needed to improve. This was done during Circle Time to help learners understand the different facets of self. During Leadership Curriculum classes, the learners reflected on certain behaviour to ascertain if they have ever done those things and a staggering number of them acknowledged that at some point in their lives, they were responsible for causing pain and hurt to someone in their immediate circle. The concept of “Bullying” is definitely bringing a lot to the fore.

ICT

GRADE 1

The Grade 1 learners recreated a beautiful poster displayed on the screen using MS Word software. They skilfully applied their learning, including adding page colours, borders,



text boxes and various formatting techniques. This activity highlighted their ability to follow instructions and use digital tools effectively.

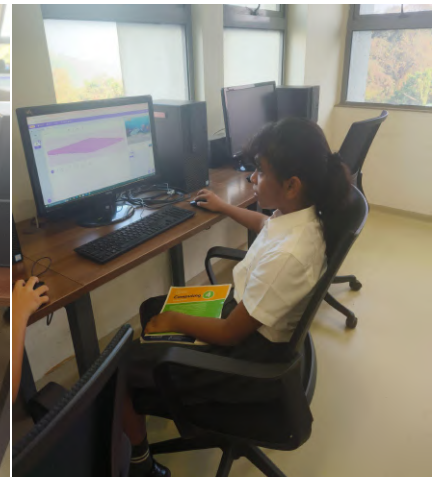
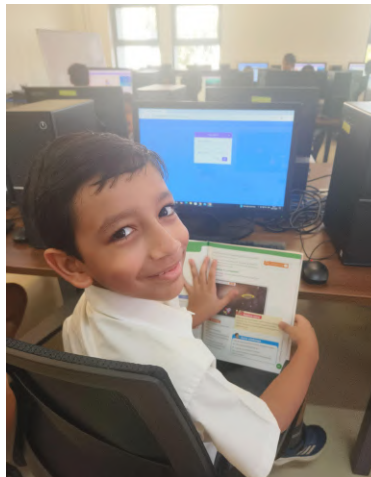
GRADE 2

The Grade 2 learners recreated a simple interactive code in Scratch, using input/output blocks like "ask" and "say." This activity allowed them to explore basic programming concepts and create engaging interactions thus showcasing their growing skills in coding.



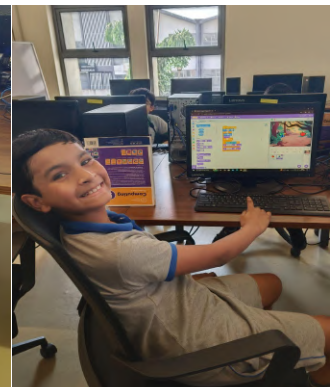
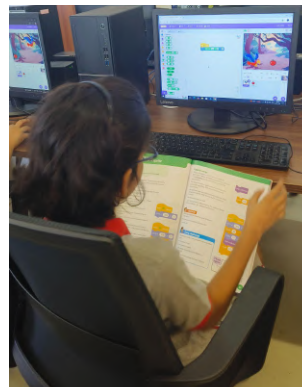
GRADE 3

The Grade 3 learners enthusiastically designed a new game in Scratch called "**Funny Fish.**" In this game, the user controls a fish using the mouse pointer while avoiding a dangerous Shark. The game starts with 20 points, and each time the Shark touches the fish, a point is deducted. This creative project showcased their problem-solving skills and imagination as budding game developers.



GRADE 4

The Grade 4 learners demonstrated their Scratch programming skills by applying three different types of loops to a given code, observing how each affected the program's behaviour. Additionally, they began their exciting journey of game design in Scratch with a project titled "**The Hungry Parrot.**" This activity showcased their analytical thinking and creativity as they explored new possibilities in coding.



GRADE 5



The Grade 5 learners created a simple Scratch program where users input numbers to be subtracted from an initial variable value. They incorporated a condition-based loop to ensure the code stops when the user enters 0, displaying the final result after all subtractions. Additionally, they embarked on their game design journey in Scratch with a project called "**Frog and the Maze.**" They learned to control the frog's movement using keyboard keys, showcasing their growing programming expertise and creativity.

PRIMARY UPDATES

FRENCH

GRADE 1

This fortnight, Grade 1 French learners had an exciting and engaging class! They explored the beautiful country of France, learning about its capital city, Paris and the iconic Eiffel Tower. They discovered interesting facts about this famous landmark, sparking their curiosity about French culture.



In class, we commenced Leçon 7 - Les préférences alimentaires, where students were introduced to the vocabulary of various fruits and vegetables in French. They enthusiastically learned to express their preferences using "J'aime" (I like/I love) and practised forming sentences. For example, "J'aime la pomme et la mangue" (I like apples and mangoes). For written work, learners wrote the names of different fruits and vegetables in French. They showed great enthusiasm and confidence in expressing their likes in French!

Over the past fortnight, our Grade 2 French learners have been actively engaging in exciting lessons! We started by revising vocabulary related to *les fruits et les légumes* (fruits and vegetables), enhancing their ability to recognize and name different food in French.

GRADE 2

Over the past fortnight, our Grade 2 French learners have been actively engaging in exciting lessons! We started by revising vocabulary related to *les fruits et les légumes* (fruits and vegetables), enhancing their ability to recognize and name different food in French.

We then commenced *Leçon 4 – C'est mon anniversaire*, where students practised essential phrases related to birthdays. Through a lively dialogue, they developed their reading and listening comprehension skills. A key focus was understanding the difference between the question phrases "*Qu'est-ce que c'est?*" (What is this?) and "*Qui est-ce?*" (Who is this?). Students also strengthened their knowledge of months, days and writing dates in French.



In written work, they applied their learning by forming sentences using "*Qu'est-ce que c'est?*" and "*Qui est-ce?*". Now, they have begun learning adjectives to describe people.

GRADE 3

This fortnight, Grade 3 learners made exciting progress in French. Students began by learning the names for family members, such as *le grand-père* (grandfather), *la mère* (mother), and *le frère* (brother). They practised forming simple sentences like *J'ai une sœur* (I have a sister) and *Mon père est gentil* (My father is kind). Next, they used adjectives like *adorable* (adorable) and *jolie* (pretty) to describe family members, creating sentences like *Ma mère est jolie* (My mother is pretty). They also explored extended family terms, such as *le cousin* (cousin) and *la nièce* (niece), and practiced talking about relationships with family members like "*j'aime ma mère*" (I love my mother).



GRADE 4

This fortnight, Grade 4 learners focused on the verb *faire* (to do/make) in the present tense, conjugating it and using it in sentences like *Je fais mes devoirs* (I do my homework) and *Nous faisons du sport* (We do sports). They also explored common expressions with *faire*, such as *faire du shopping* (to go shopping) and *faire la cuisine* (to cook), understanding how *faire* changes meaning in different contexts. Students also studied numbers from 0 to 100, applying them in basic math exercises. To help reinforce their memory, they learned a fun number song, making it easier to recall and use the numbers in different contexts.

Grade 4 learners explored clothing vocabulary in relation to the seasons. They learned to describe what people wear in different weather conditions, such as "*On porte une jupe en été*" (We wear a skirt in the summer) and "*On porte un manteau en hiver*" (We wear a coat in the winter). This vocabulary helped them link language to real-life situations and seasons, making learning both fun and practical.



GRADE 5

This fortnight, Grade 5 learners took their understanding of the verb *faire* (to do/make) a step further, refining their ability to conjugate and use *faire* in more complex sentences. They expanded their vocabulary with expressions like *faire du vélo* (to ride a bike), *faire les courses* (to do shopping), and *faire un gâteau* (to bake a cake), practising them in both spoken and written forms. Additionally, they revisited colours as adjectives and applied them to describe clothing, saying things like *Je porte un manteau bleu en hiver* (I wear a blue coat in Winter) and *Elle porte une robe rose au printemps* (She wears a pink dress in Spring). This enhanced their ability to describe what they wear across different seasons.



HINDI GRADE 1

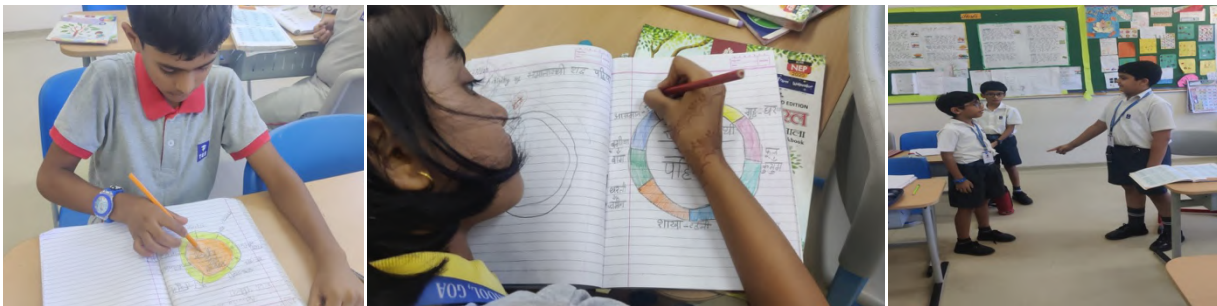
Grade 1 learners thoroughly enjoyed various activities centered around *संयुक्त व्यंजन* (क्ष, त्र, ज्ञ, and श्र). They participated in a repetition exercise for क्ष/ज्ञ words, which helped them learn new vocabulary. They practiced writing these *व्यंजन* in the air to master their formation. Using a screen display, the teacher



showed words associated with क्ष/ज्ञ, encouraging learners to identify and recognize them. This activity was both informative and entertaining. In another session, learners watched and listened to a story featuring words from श्र/त्र. They were tasked with finding associated words, which enhanced their recognition skills. The "शब्द ट्रेन बनाएं" activity was a highlight, where the teacher introduced a word from each *संयुक्त व्यंजन*, and learners

added words to form a "word train," making the exercise enjoyable and engaging. Additionally, learners explored their surroundings to find words linked to the *संयुक्त व्यंजन*. They illustrated and wrote these words in their notebooks, reinforcing their understanding. Flashcard games further helped them recognize and memorize *व्यंजन*.

GRADE 2



Grade 2 learners engaged in various activities to explore *विलोम शब्द* and *समानार्थी शब्द*. They enjoyed a flashcard activity where they identified the meaning of a word and its opposite, supported by pictures. A video presentation on *विलोम शब्द* further enhanced their understanding, with learners participating in team-based discussions. They also completed a notebook activity, matching *विलोम शब्द* with their meanings. To deepen their learning, learners created sentences, both verbally and in writing, using *विलोम शब्द* and their meanings. They enthusiastically participated in a quiz on *समानार्थी शब्द*. Learners also collaborated to create verbal stories in Hindi using at least five *समानार्थी शब्द*. Finally, they enjoyed making a *समानार्थी शब्द पहिया* by observing their surroundings and naming related words. These activities made learning interactive and enjoyable.

GRADE 3

Grade 3 learners participated in engaging activities centered around *सर्वनाम* and *क्रिया*. The class was divided into two groups for a collaborative activity where they created sentences using *सर्वनाम*, both verbally and in writing. They also enjoyed a picture-based activity

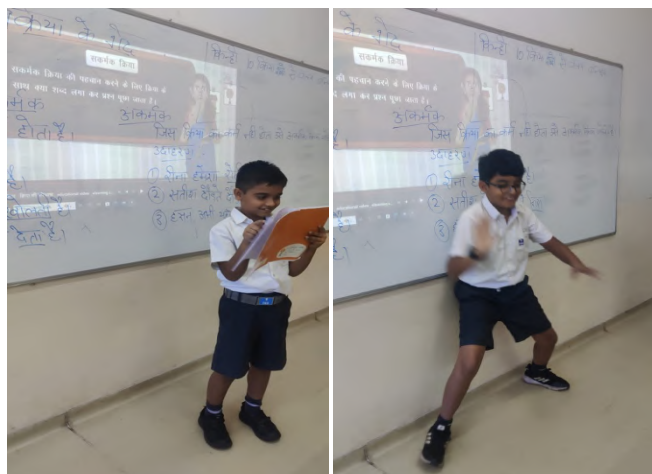
where they identified appropriate *सर्वनाम* for the person shown in the image. Learners completed a creative writing task, crafting stories that incorporated *सर्वनाम*, and participated in a drawing and writing activity to reinforce their understanding of different words. In another group activity, one team created sentences while the other identified *सर्वनाम* and *क्रिया* within them.



The teacher recited a story and tasked learners with finding and writing *क्रिया* in their notebooks. Additionally, learners took part in a *क्रिया* picture-matching activity, where they drew pictures depicting various actions and matched them with the corresponding *क्रिया*. These activities made learning interactive and enjoyable.

GRADE 4

Grade 4 learners participated in engaging activities to deepen their understanding of *क्रिया* and *सर्वनाम*. They enjoyed the *क्रिया पहेली* activity, where the teacher created sentences, and students identified the *क्रिया* and *सर्वनाम*. In a fun *क्रिया अभिनय* activity, students acted out actions while their classmates guessed the corresponding *क्रिया*. Learners practised making sentences using *क्रिया* and *सर्वनाम* and also created stories



incorporating both concepts. A video presentation on *क्रिया* and its types provided examples and enhanced their understanding of the topic. Additionally, they identified *क्रिया* words from a paragraph displayed on the screen and classified them by type. These activities were both interactive and informative.

GRADE 5

Grade 5 learners participated in engaging activities to enhance their understanding of *सर्वनाम* and *क्रिया*. They enjoyed identifying *सर्वनाम* and *क्रिया* from paragraphs displayed during a video presentation. An acting activity further reinforced their understanding, as students performed actions while others identified the corresponding *क्रिया*. Learners

practised sentence formation to recognize *सर्वनाम* and *क्रिया* and completed a creative writing activity, crafting stories with a focus on *क्रिया*. They enthusiastically took part in a *क्रिया शब्द माला* activity, where each child contributed a *क्रिया शब्द* to form a chain of words. The teacher displayed sentences on the screen, and students identified the types of *क्रिया*

used, fostering a deeper understanding. In a group activity, learners collaborated to create stories using *क्रिया* words, making the learning process interactive and enjoyable.



P.E

NURSERY TO GRADE 5

Students of Nursery to Grade 5 have been having Sports Day practices.

LIBRARY

NURSERY

Colour buddies: In this activity, students had the chance to select a book for a classmate by using the name and colour code on the chits. They thoroughly loved the activity, and it was enjoyable.



NEWS FROM THE EARLY YEARS SECTION

NURSERY

LITERACY

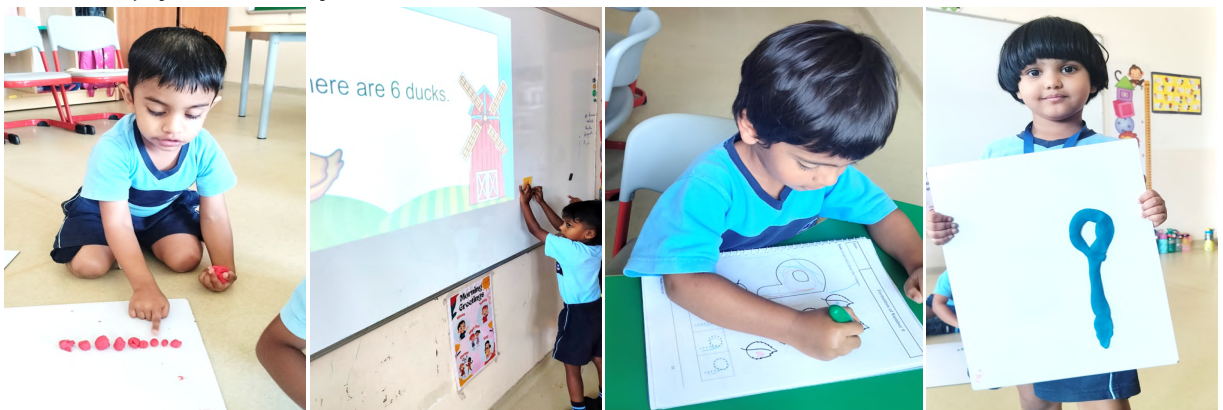
In the Nursery class, the children are exploring new letters, including g, l, and j. They are practising letter formation while learning the phonetic sounds associated with each letter. To enhance vocabulary, we are focusing on word-sound associations by introducing new words that correspond to the letters being learned.

As part of this learning experience, the students enthusiastically participated in making lemonade in class. This hands-on activity not only excited them but also reinforced the connection between the letter l and words like "lemonade" and "lemon." By engaging in this activity and tasting the lemonade they made, the children could better relate the letter sound to meaningful words. The students are consistently revisiting and practising the letter sounds, which is helping them effectively retain the sounds and related vocabulary.



NUMERACY

The past weeks have been a delightful journey into hands-on learning for our Nursery students. The learners explored the oval shape through creative crafts, making objects such as balloons, brinjals, bulbs, and pineapples. These ideas stemmed from an exciting object hunt where they discovered oval-shaped items in their surroundings. Moving ahead, the children were introduced to the *Adventures of Number 9*, which brought the concept of this number to life in an engaging way. They practised quantifying up to 9 by counting various objects and moulding clay balls, strengthening their understanding of numbers. To refine their number formation skills, the students engaged in air tracing and playdough activities to shape the number 9. These interactive experiences not only reinforced their learning but also made the process enjoyable as they worked on their number skills.



UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Over the last fortnight, our young learners revisited the topics of farm and wild animals. They actively sorted animals into farm and wild categories while discussing their habitats and unique characteristics. Additionally, they explored the dietary habits of animals by

categorising them as herbivores, carnivores, or omnivores. The Nursery students have now spread their wings and ventured into the captivating world of *Birds*. The topic began with an engaging introduction to the bird lifecycle, which sparked their curiosity and held their attention. As the lessons progressed, the children showed great enthusiasm for learning about common birds found in India. They explored the distinctive features and habitats of these birds, deepening their understanding of the avian world. To nurture their creativity, the students participated in a hands-on activity where they crafted an eagle using cutouts, thoroughly enjoying the process. They were particularly intrigued by learning about birds with webbed feet and sharp claws, which inspired thoughtful questions and lively discussions during class.



LKG

LITERACY

Students have been honing their skills in blending letter sounds to read CVC words through a variety of engaging activities. These include board games, hopscotch, screen-based games, and practising proper letter formation by aligning their writing within the red and blue lines.



NUMERACY

The LKG students engaged in a hands-on and interactive learning experience to understand the concepts of addition and subtraction. They



utilized a variety of resources such as blocks, toys, fruits, and flashcards to make the learning process enjoyable and effective. This practical approach was complemented by workbook activities, allowing the students to reinforce and apply their newly acquired skills in a structured manner.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Students are exploring fascinating facts about landmarks in Asia and Africa through interactive presentations and hands-on activities. They are gaining a deeper understanding of iconic landmarks such as the Sahara Desert, the River Nile, and the Great Pyramid of Giza in Africa, as well as the Burj Khalifa and the Great Wall of China in Asia.



UKG

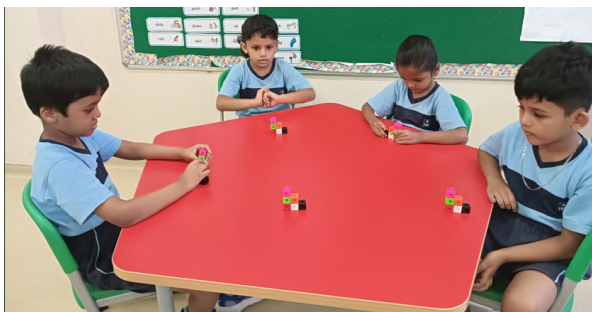
LITERACY

The students of the UKG class were engaged in activities to enhance their reading, writing, and comprehension skills. They matched sentences to pictures, improving their ability to connect text with visuals, and completed fill-in-the-blank exercises to strengthen observational skills and vocabulary. Additionally, they wrote a short composition titled "Myself," sharing personal details while practising sentence formation.



NUMERACY

The learners of UKG explored patterns and fractions through engaging activities that fostered critical thinking and reasoning. They identified and created patterns, used grids to describe directions like square up, down, left, and right, and demonstrated understanding by organising



Hands-on tasks, such as placing items and explaining positions, strengthened their grasp of positional concepts. Students were also introduced to fractions,

focusing on halves. They identified two equal parts as halves, differentiated between equal and unequal parts, and sorted objects into categories using practical examples. By dividing numbers into halves, they reinforced

their understanding of this concept. These activities made learning enjoyable while building a strong foundation in math and spatial awareness.



UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD



Our young UKG learners explored the fascinating world of forces and movement through hands-on activities and engaging discussions. They discovered that a push is a type of force that causes movement and identified how different strengths of pushes can affect objects which was experimented with using a balloon. The concept of simple machines was introduced, helping children understand forces' role in making work easier. They explored examples like levers, pulleys, and inclined planes, connecting these tools to real-life applications. The children also delved into the relationship between electricity and movement, identifying objects that rely on electricity to function. Through interactive activities, they learned about the forces of pushes and pulls and explored how air can make objects float. By sorting and predicting whether different items would float, they developed their observation and reasoning skills. These engaging learning experiences fostered curiosity and helped our students grasp the foundational principles of physics in an enjoyable and meaningful way.

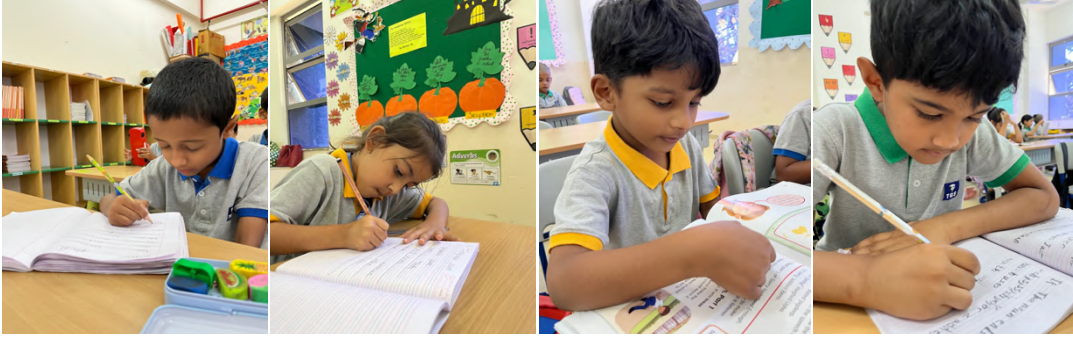
PRIMARY UPDATES

NEWS FROM EACH GRADE

GRADE 1

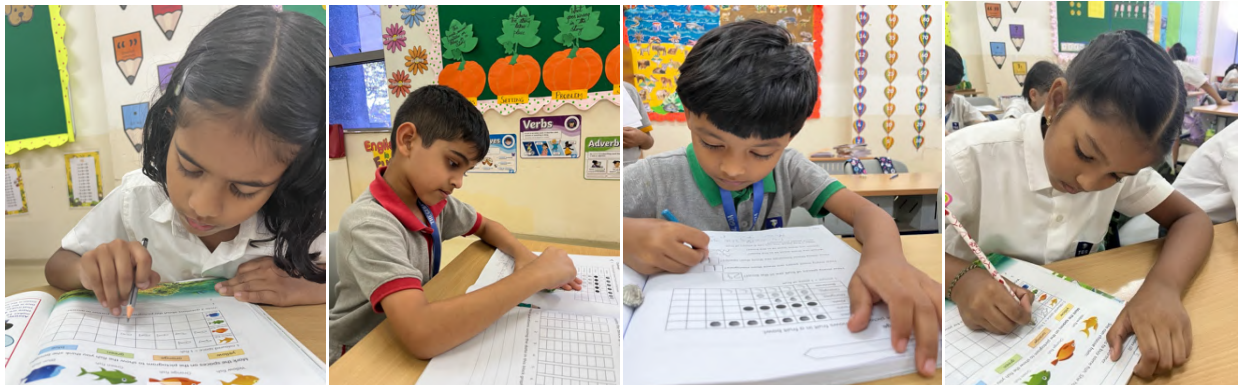
ENGLISH

This fortnight, the bright bunch of Grade 1 learners have brushed up on their skills of writing short poems. Furthermore, they have been introduced to stories by famous authors in order to read and recognise vocabulary words before applying them in sentences of their own. The learners have also been introduced to grammatical concepts such as homophones and singular or plural which has equipped learners to build on their fluency and confidence in the English Language.



MATH

Our young learners completed the topic of Reading Time and Calendars. Through hands-on practice, they were able to navigate calendars effectively as well as read Time. The students have been introduced to the fascinating chapter of Data Handling. They are learning to analyze and sort data using Tables, Venn diagrams and Pictograms. These tools helped them interpret information and draw meaningful conclusions which are essential skills for problem-solving.



SCIENCE

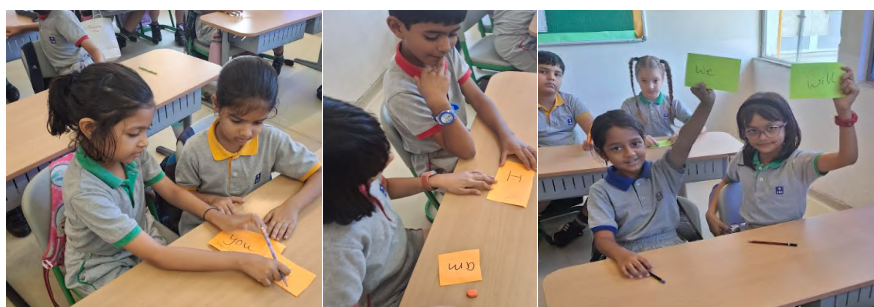
Last week, our Grade 1 learners explored '*Humans and Animals Grow*' through engaging hands-on activities. They measured growth using water bottles as non-standard units, comparing the height of a child and an adult. Connecting to Math, learners created block graphs to visualize these differences. Learners also discovered '*Inheriting Characteristics*' by examining features like eye colour and fingerprints to trace traits from parents or grandparents. A fun activity using fingerprints on balloons helped them observe unique details. The week's highlight was their confident participation in the Science Exhibition, proudly presenting their work and discoveries.



GRADE 2 **ENGLISH**

Sending a letter to family is like wrapping your thoughts in love and sealing them with joy, creating a timeless connection across miles. Students of Grade 2 are thoroughly enjoying

their journey of learning the use of apostrophes in contractions and possession in engaging collaborative activities. They have started using these forms effectively in their letters, gaining a clear understanding of their purpose. As part of their unit on letter writing, students are not only becoming familiar with different formats but are also delving into the fascinating evolution of communication across the world over time.



MATH

Our Grade 2 learners have been exploring the concept of Time! They have learned to read and record time



using both analogue and digital clocks. Through hands-on activities, they practiced identifying the hour and minute hands, matching analogue and digital times and understanding the importance of time in daily life. Engaging group games and worksheets helped reinforce their learning.

SCIENCE

Our Grade 2 scientists explored the amazing features of the Moon! They learnt that the Moon has craters, mountains and flat plains called *maria*. It has no air, water or life, making it very different from Earth. We also had an exciting time practicing for our Science Exhibition! Students prepared presentations and created models on 'Plant - Animal Interactions'. Their hard work and creativity shone brightly, just like the Moon in the night sky! Keep observing the Moon and get ready to showcase your discoveries!



GRADE 3 ENGLISH



This fortnight, Grade 3 learners focused on honing their presentation skills as they rehearsed for their theme presentations. They also concluded their unit on poetry by expressing their thoughts on the Monarch Butterfly. It was a treat to see them apply features of poetry such as rhyming patterns, alliteration and figurative language in their writing. While working on their creative writing, they were introduced to new vocabulary, including elegance, fringed, stained glass and the concept of metamorphosis. In grammar, they explored collective nouns such as a parliament of owls, a fleet of ships, and a batch of bread. Watching them progress from dependence to independence has been a remarkable journey.

MATH

In Mathematics, Grade 3 learners explored the relationship between fractions, percentages and decimals using bar models and hundredth squares. They analyzed how to complete percentage circles and practised converting percentages to decimals. Additionally, they worked on presenting their data for the theme presentation, focusing on endangered, vulnerable and extinct species in India and Goa over the past 10 years. This activity beautifully integrated the subjects of English and Mathematics, showcasing their ability to connect learning across disciplines.



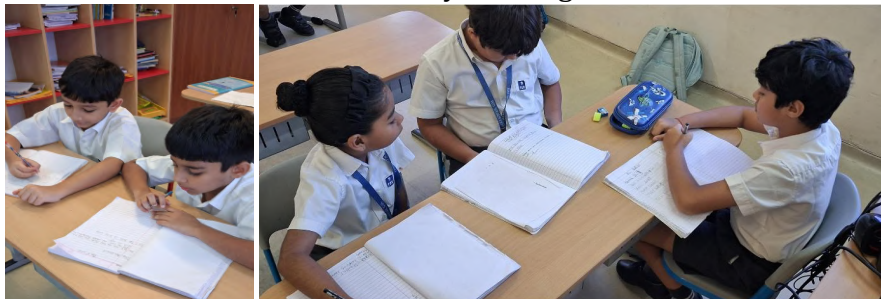
SCIENCE

In our recent Science exploration, students investigated how shadows are formed and how they change. We learned that opaque objects block light and create shadows. By experimenting with flashlights and puppets, students discovered that shadows become larger when the light source is closer and smaller when it's farther away. They also observed how moving the light or the object changes the shadow's shape and position. We also explored Earth's rotation and how it causes day and night. Using a globe and flashlight, students visualized how different parts of Earth receive sunlight as it spins. This daily rotation is called a cycle because it repeats every 24 hours. Interestingly, we say "sunrise" and "sunset" because Earth's movement makes it appear as if the Sun is rising and setting.



G.P.

Grade 3 learners have recently completed their chapter titled Food That Changes the World. They explored how food shapes our culture and examined factors influencing the food we consume, such as our environment and community. Through reflective exercises, learners asked family members about traditional dishes from the past and compared them to meals enjoyed today, understanding how produce and availability have evolved. They also explored the Silk Route, uncovering how food travelled historically and learned about the fascinating history of chocolate!

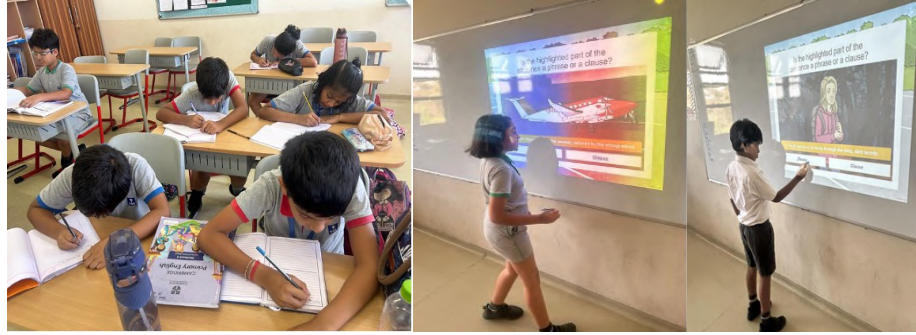


GRADE 4 ENGLISH

This January, our class travelled into the world of fairy tales, discovering what makes stories like Cinderella so enchanting! We focused on the elements of fairy tales—heroes, villains, magic and transformations. Students also explored how Cinderella appears in different cultures, noticing how the narrative changes from one version to another, including the classic Disney Tale. In grammar, we learned about phrases and clauses, which help us build better sentences. By understanding how these work together, students can express themselves more clearly and creatively. For an activity, the kids

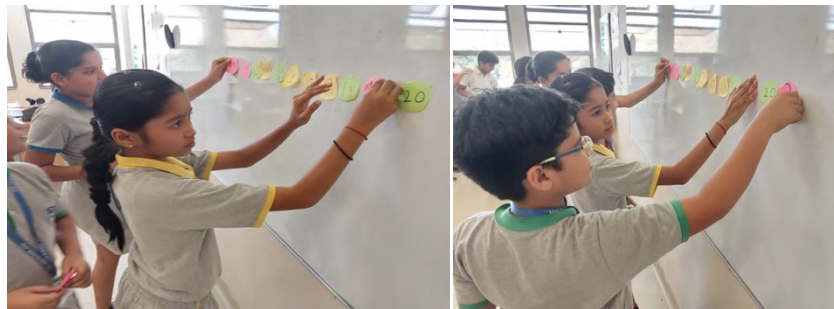
wrote their own Cinderella synopsis, imagining how the story might unfold in other parts of the world. They loved comparing how different cultures add their unique twists

while still keeping the magic alive! As Cinderella says, “I’ll go to the ball!”—and so we did, with our imagination leading the way!

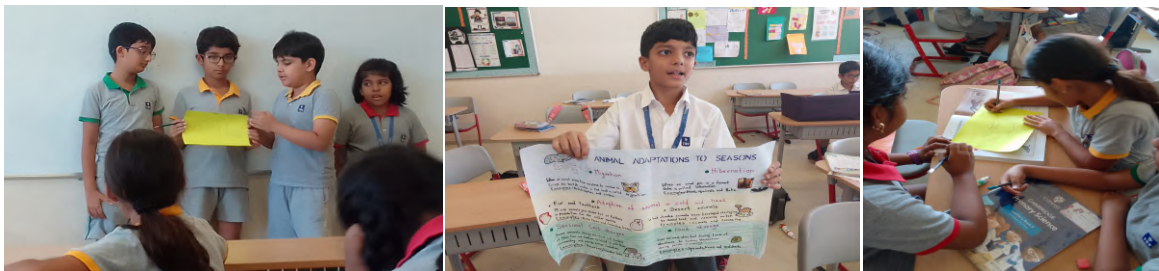


MATH

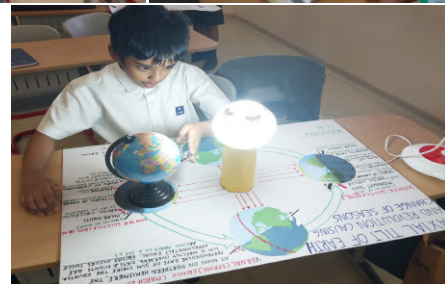
Our learners explored the world of averages, diving into Mean, Median and Mode—how to calculate them and their real-life applications. They learned that Mean represents the “average” of a group of numbers, the Median helps organize data by identifying the middle value, and the Mode highlights patterns by finding the most frequent number. Learners applied these concepts to calculate average book ratings and other real-life scenarios.



SCIENCE



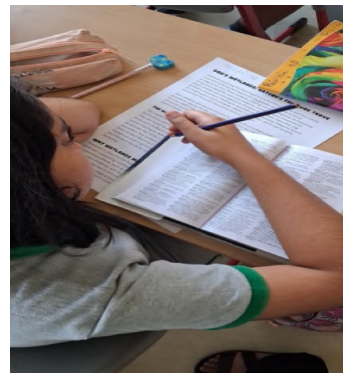
The Grade 4 learners dived into the fascinating world of adaptations! Through engaging group discussions and presentations, they explored how predators and prey adapt to survive in their environment. This interactive learning extended across subjects, linking Science with Math to study time changes across Seasons and Global Perspectives to understand migration patterns. The activities encouraged critical thinking, collaboration and cross-disciplinary connections, sparking curiosity and deepening their understanding of the natural world. The learners showed great enthusiasm as they



analyzed survival strategies and gained insights into the remarkable ways plants and animals thrive in varying seasonal conditions.

G.P.

Our Grade 4 learners have begun an intriguing exploration of the IUCN Red List and the process behind identifying endangered and threatened species. Through research and data analysis, they are developing a deeper understanding of global biodiversity and the factors influencing species survival. Key discussions included the importance of Goa's wetlands and the Amazon Rainforest, highlighting their critical roles in supporting global biodiversity. These activities have helped learners analyze how ecosystems influence the world and the diversity of flora and fauna.



GRADE 5 ENGLISH



Our fifth graders dabbled with creative writing and grammar! They explored descriptive writing by diving into sci-fi, where students wrote about alien worlds and futuristic inventions. They also created detailed character sketches of popular Japanese comic characters in their workbooks. In addition, students wrote engaging blurbs for their own sci-fi stories, challenging themselves to capture the readers' attention with just a few sentences. Students also practised different sentence types—simple, compound and complex—to improve their writing flow. Grade 5 also spent some time solving practice papers, sharpening their skills for upcoming assessments or checkpoints. The learners did a fantastic job staying focused and improving their problem-solving abilities!

MATH

Who stole the decimal point? That's the mystery Grade 5 students solved this week as they cracked the code of decimal multiplication and division! The Decimal Detectives are back

at it! This week, they solved the case of *how many pieces of candy fit in a bag*—using their newfound skills in decimal multiplication. Rylan who had initially struggled with decimals, exclaimed, “I can now multiply decimals like a pro! Multiplying decimals? Easy! “Ignore the decimal, multiply like normal, then count the decimal places,” said Zoya, our future math genius. Dividing decimals? “Just move the decimal and divide like a pro!” Rishad explained, feeling victorious. Students tested their skills at a mock supermarket, calculating prices, discounts and the dreaded restaurant bill split! “I never realized how much Math is in everyday life!” said Vidur. “It makes so much sense now, like when we divide a pizza between friends!” The verdict? Decimals are nothing to fear! These Decimal Detectives are ready for their next case. Stay tuned!

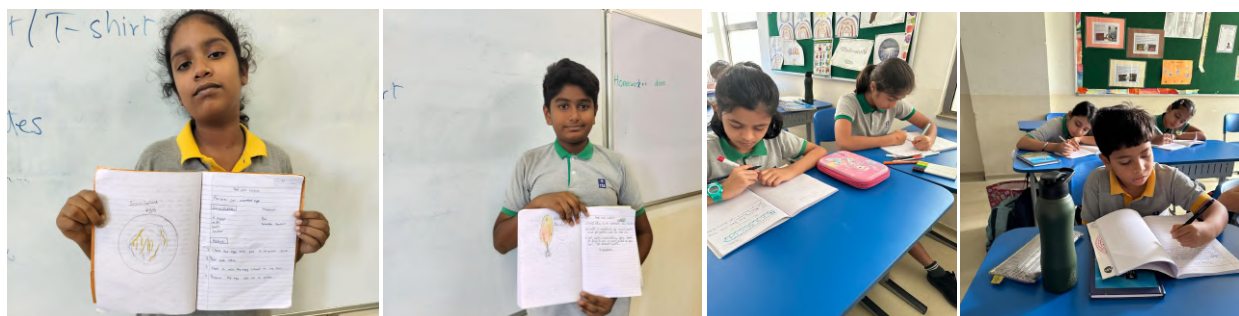


SCIENCE



This fortnight our learners have been experimenting with forces powerful enough to make things float, sink or zoom across the room. However, no one has launched themselves into space—yet! Learners experimented with various objects to observe forces in action. They pushed and pulled objects, such as toy cars, magnets and even stretched rubber bands to identify how forces can cause motion, stop it or change its direction. They learned about different types of forces, including push, pull, friction and magnetic forces. Next they also discovered the forces involved in making objects float and sink. Using a bowl of water, learners tested objects like coins, sponges and plastic bottles to figure out why some items float while others sink. They loved seeing how air trapped in certain objects helped them float even if they were heavier than expected! The “Will it Float?” challenge, had everyone guessing and cheering. Learners enthusiastically debated their observations, learning about upthrust, density and the magic behind why some things float like boats and others sink like rocks.

G.P.



This week, we began our exciting new topic on Food and Agriculture by exploring how food brings people together across different cultures. Our classroom turned into a mini world tour of cuisines, traditions and fascinating food facts! Students shared their favourite dishes and learned about the origin of food from countries like Italy, India, Japan and Mexico. They were amazed to discover how each culture's food reflects its history, geography and climate. Exploring food traditions helps us appreciate diversity and build cultural understanding. Students also wrote down and shared a few recipes with colourful illustrations for the same. The 'Ice Age' movie has always interested children and when we began the same topic in History, students were found to be equally interested. They had loads of information to share on how the Earth came into being and what it was like millions of years ago.

This brings us to the end of this Newsletter. The next Newsletter will be for the period 27th January to 15th February 2025.

Regards

The Gera School