

Dear everyone,

Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary this month reminded me of the phrase 'crucible moment'. What is the meaning of this phrase? A crucible is a ceramic or metal container in which metals or other substances may be melted or subjected to very high temperatures.

A crucible experience is a time in our lives when we experience circumstances that alter us (sometimes) for a lifetime. In that time we question beliefs and values and the rituals of our lives – and so develop a new, transformed self.

When Bapu was thrown off the train in South Africa, he had a crucible moment. He decided that he would be in S. Africa not to make money but to fight for the rights of the Indians there.

A former colleague lives on the ninth floor of a multi-storied apartment complex. She was very proud of her home and the way she had designed it and put it together. One day there was an earthquake while she was at home. The building swayed seemingly for a long time. She stood rooted to the spot, helpless, voiceless, terrified, as she watched her world move, heave from side to side. Her life flashed before her eyes in a quick reel. All the wall cabinets with her treasure trove of curios and antique crockery, her expensive television and sound system swayed with her and she wondered whether the building would crumble and she would be buried along with all that she had laboured to put together. Nothing happened after the first tremor and the minor ones that followed but after the tremors ceased, she realized that all the material things she had treasured meant nothing; they had lost value for her. She began to focus on happiness, mental peace and the quality of life. The earthquake was her crucible moment.

All of us will have crucible moments. It may be a death, a loss of a job or a home or simply something like the one described above. What matters, though, for any crucible moment is what we take from it, how we emerge on the other side, what alterations have taken place inside us. What matters is how we draw meaning of the episode and use parts or the whole of our value system to be stronger and wiser individuals. Else we will just go to pieces.

Let us help our students / children learn from little setbacks in their lives instead of making them run away from them or giving them some reason to reject them or deny them. When we find ourselves occasionally facing the heat in the crucible of life, we must forge a new tougher, stronger, wiser self. Heat is one of the ways to remove impurities from substances. Let us use the heat of adversity to remove all that diminishes us or takes us away from our true and authentic selves.

You should read this article to begin with, and then Google the term for more literature on crucible moments. <https://hbr.org/2002/09/crucibles-of-leadership> All the best!

Warm regards,

C P Joseph
PRINCIPAL



EVENTS

GANDHI JAYANTI CELEBRATIONS



The school celebrated Gandhi Jayanti, commemorating the significance of a man who revolutionized our country through the principles of *Satya* and *Ahimsa* in the struggle for freedom. The entire school community witnessed touching glimpses and moments from the life of Mahatma Gandhi as students across grades presented heartfelt poems that echoed his views and insights, along with a melodious song performance. The highlight of the day was a skit portraying the power of non-violence, leaving the audience inspired by Gandhiji's enduring legacy. On this occasion, the Principal, Mr. Carol Joseph, addressed the staff and students, shedding light on the life of Gandhi. He spoke about how, like any of us, Gandhiji was an imperfect man, yet he remained steadfast in his principles and persevered to achieve his goals. His words emphasized the importance of resilience and staying true to one's values, urging everyone to follow Gandhiji's example in their own lives.

NAVRATRI & DUSSEHRA CELEBRATIONS

Students of Grade 6B recently presented a captivating assembly on the significance of Dussehra, highlighting the triumph of good over evil. The Assembly opened with a prayer, followed by an engaging enactment of the legendary story of Goddess Durga's battle with the demon, Mahishasura. Students performed a graceful dance to "Aigiri Nandini," symbolizing the power of the nine forms of Durga. The dramatic portrayal showcased how the Gods bestowed their divine weapons upon Goddess Durga, empowering her to defeat Mahishasura. After the victory, teachers joined in a celebratory Garba dance, emphasizing the festival's joyous spirit. The Assembly concluded by reflecting on Dussehra as a reminder that goodness will always overcome evil, inspiring everyone to reflect on their own inner strength.



EARLY YEARS QUIZ DAY

Quizzes are valuable for pre-schoolers as they make learning fun and interactive, reinforcing concepts through repetition and engaging their curiosity. They also help develop listening skills, memory, and confidence in a playful environment. The Early Years enjoyed a lively Quiz Day in their classes, featuring engaging categories like "Guess the Silhouette," General Knowledge, "Name the Story from the Main Character," and "Predict the Ending." These



activities kept students fully engaged, encouraging them to put on their thinking caps and tackle challenges as teams. The children showed great enthusiasm and energy throughout, making Quiz Day a memorable and enjoyable experience.

INCREDIBLE INDIA

The Early Years students enthusiastically celebrated the Incredible India event, highlighting the nation's rich



legacy in sports. As part of the festivities, students dressed up as iconic sports personalities who have brought international recognition to India. The event was designed to introduce young learners to these inspiring figures, fostering awareness and appreciation for India's sporting achievements. Through this engaging activity, students not only enjoyed the opportunity to speak on stage but also gained valuable insights into the remarkable contributions of these sports heroes.



GRADES 4 & 5 INTER-HOUSE LENSES

The Primary section recently hosted its first *Global Perspectives (G.P.)* event, *LENSES*, where Grade 4 and 5 learners explored pressing global issues like *Climate Change*, *Wildlife Conservation*, *Food Wastage* and *Ocean Pollution*. This two-round event challenged learners to apply skills in communication, collaboration, research and critical analysis. In Round 1, learners created impactful posters, with finalists advancing to a group challenge in Round 2, where they developed creative solutions to real-world social challenges. The event was an inspiring display of teamwork, reflection, and problem-solving: our young change makers are ready to make a difference!



GRADES 1 TO 5 TECH ON TWERP

The Tech On Twerp 2024 ICT event was a thrilling opportunity for students



across Grades 1 to 5 to showcase their creativity and ICT skills. Grade 1 students embraced the theme "Create

Your Own Shape World Adventure!" by designing vibrant scenes using various shapes in MS Paint. Meanwhile, Grade 2 students created impactful posters in MS Word with the theme "Save Earth," highlighting their commitment to environmental awareness. In addition, Grade 3 students crafted engaging photo albums using PowerPoint, exploring their chosen themes creatively. Grades 4 and 5 took it a step further by designing quiz presentations on various topics. The event was a wonderful celebration of young talent and innovation in technology!

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH OLYMPIAD AND INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD

On October 8 and October 22, respectively, students from Grades 3 to 8 participated in the International English



Olympiad and the International Mathematics Olympiad. The purpose of these competitions is to challenge students and promote excellence. Such competitions promote creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving. Numerous students participated in these two contests.

NEWS FROM THE SPECIALISTS

MUSIC

NURSERY

Nursery students learned a delightful song called *Mr Sun*, where they invited the sun to come out on a dull day so they could play. They sang it with wonderful expression and actions, bringing



the song to life. In music class, the focus turned to keyboard exploration. Each child had the chance to feel the keys, hear the sounds, and create music independently, making it an exciting hands-on experience.

LKG

LKG students practised their timing and rhythm through clapping games. They enjoyed songs with different rhythms and clapped along, keeping time and matching the rhythm of each tune.



UKG

UKG students enjoyed a creative activity with their teachers, making shakers and cabasas from waste bottles and household items filled with pulses, rice, or seeds. They then used their handmade instruments to play along with different drum



rhythms. In singing class, students were introduced to the notes of the melodic scale through the classic song *Do-Re-Mi* from *The Sound of Music*, which made learning the notes fun and easy to follow.

GRADE 1

The music classes in the past fortnight were divided into percussion and singing. In the song section, Grade 1 visited the culture of the Hawaiian Islands and their songs and dance.



Pearly Shells is a very famous song sung by the islanders along with their dance. In the percussion class, the students were shown an audio visual presentation on the Djembe. They were shown how skilled and talented Djembe players perform. They then took turns to express themselves on the djembe with their own groove.



GRADE 2

Grade 2 has begun their classes on melody and the notes in the major scale. Having done brilliantly in the rhythm section, they now are learning the notes of the major scale and how to sing up and down the scale pyramid. Some of the students can already sing skipped notes.



GRADE 3

Grade 3 students enjoyed their outdoor percussion class so much that they asked for more and they got it. This



percussion class focused on the celebration of Diwali and the students were very elated to express themselves on the percussion with their own beats. In the singing classes, we visited a beautiful classic, Baby Beluga, a song about a beluga whale. The students loved it and have learnt to sing the song with expression and feeling. We also visited the relation of the Beluga whale to Aviation. The students were shown the Beluga aircraft and given a brief history about it.

GRADE 4



Students of Grade 4 continue their exploration of the genre of country music with the songs Country Roads and You are my Sunshine. We also began working with percussion and introduced syncopated rhythms with the song “Good Morning!” by Randy Delelles & Jeff Kriske. The quaver and dotted minim notes were taught, through which we explored new rhythms.

GRADE 5

Students of Grade 5 learned the country song “You Are My Sunshine” by Jimmie Davis. As an added assignment, students were asked to make groups and write a new verse to the song and then perform it. It was definitely an interesting and entertaining class! Students were also taught rhythm using percussion and they played along as we sang Country Roads!



DANCE

NURSERY

Nursery students explored rhythm and tempo through various dance activities. Each session began and ended with a warm-up and cool-down,



focusing on keeping the beat. They practised staying in rhythm using hula hoops, hand clapping, and foot stomping. The children danced like different animals to understand the difference between slow and fast. The children can be seen here moving slowly like sloths.

LKG

The LKG Class has also been learning all about Rhythm and tempos in their Dance sessions. The various dance activities increased the level of difficulty in this Grade. A drum was



used to keep the beat, and the tempo would slowly increase. Students had to vary their dance steps accordingly, and this challenge was fun and exciting.

UKG

UKG students continued their exploration of rhythm and tempo in their dance sessions through various activities. They learned a simple choreography with a strong emphasis



on keeping the beat. The children danced in a circle, following a clapping sequence and switching partners as the music progressed.

GRADE 1

In Grade 1, students have learnt choreography to the song Clap Snap as well as have been indulging in dance games and activities that require them to develop their sense of dance timing and Rhythm in dance. We have learnt about dance counts and students have been put through a dance maze using hula hoops. Those that completed the circuit properly and in time with the music won Stickers.



GRADE 2

Students of Grade 2 have also been learning about Timing and Rhythm and keeping the proper count when dancing to the music. They were put through the dance Maze and were also asked to identify the beat in different songs with varying rhythms.



GRADES 3, 4 & 5



The students of Grades 3, 4 and 5 continue to learn Barn dance or Country western Folk dance. This time they have been learning the “Virginia Reel”. This dance is performed in a Long-way set unlike the circular nature of the Heel Toe Polka. The choreography is simple and new terms were learned pertaining to the dance like, “Do-Si-Do”, “See Saw” “Sliding down the Set”, “Peel the Banana” etc.. Emphasis was given to performing the dance with good posture and proper rhythm. Students enjoyed this vibrant and fun style of inclusive dancing where they danced in unison.

DRAMA

NURSERY

Nursery children enjoyed an interactive drama session, starting with energizing games like *Beans* and *Grow*. They practised a variety of body movements, gestures, and facial expressions. They also began developing puppet character skills, creating short sentences, using their imaginations, and experimenting with voice modulation.



LKG

LKG children practised storytelling step by step, enhancing their character portrayal through puppets, expressions, vocabulary, sentences, and voice modulation. They enjoyed brainstorming together, sharing creative ideas, and bringing their imaginations to life in class.



UKG

UKG children explored new drama concepts using energizers like *Grow*. They eagerly shared scenes and ideas, learning to build a story step by step by connecting three scenes they illustrated and wrote about, guided by prompts. Stepping into the



"theatre box" to present their stories to the class was a highlight for them.

GRADE 1



The Grade 1 students are having a fantastic time directing and acting. Each child created a unique story, based on an imaginary world map they had illustrated and had written down their ideas. They then had the chance to showcase their story by directing it for the class. The other students listened to the drama prompts and acted out the story as it Unfolded.

GRADE 2

In Grade 2, students are eagerly sharing their creative ideas with the class. They are excited to learn how to direct their own stories. As they take turns directing, the students are also acting out the story, exploring different expressions, vocal tones, dialogues, and body movements to bring the characters to life together.



GRADE 3



The Grade 3 students are presenting and directing a story that they created from their own play script. They actively took part in each part of the process, learning how to tell and direct a story. Each student took a turn directing, with the support of prompts, while the others performed the scenes aloud together.

GRADES 4 & 5

The Inter-House Competition on Dramatic Narration of Indian folk tales has reached the

elimination stage as students battle it out to determine who will represent their House in the final round. Dramatic narration serves as a powerful tool for storytelling, enhancing the impact and longevity of folk tales.

The warm-up exercises were aimed at getting the students to express their emotions in different ways, using their Face, Eyes and Hands.

Some tales and some storytellers have a hypnotic charm, creating a calming impact on the listeners, especially at the end of a tiring day.



ART

NURSERY

This week, our Nursery children had a delightful time making their own Halloween-themed hats! They assembled craft paper cutouts and decorated their hats, expressing creativity in a fun and engaging way. The activity sparked their imaginations and helped them develop fine motor skills as they glued and arranged decorations. The room was filled with joy and excitement as everyone worked together on this festive project!



LKG

Our LKG students celebrated Halloween by creating colourful masks and spooky bats! They painted their masks with poster colours, added eye markings, and crafted bats from black paper by folding and sticking them. The children enjoyed this creative activity, showcasing both their imagination and teamwork.



UKG

In preparation for Halloween, our UKG students created ghost masks as part of our Early Years decorations! They had a blast sticking on their eyes and mouths to design their spooky creations just the way they wanted. The children also learned to fold paper in a fan style, adding an extra touch to their masks. This craft activity was very interesting and engaging for them!



GRADE 1

This month, our First Graders explored cool and warm colour schemes through a fun tracing activity with oil pastels! They traced their hands and filled in the shapes with accurate colours, practicing patience and smooth blending techniques. The students enjoyed the process and showcased their creativity beautifully!



GRADE 2



Grade 2 learners had an exciting week as they ventured into the world of printmaking using bubble wrap! With their imaginations in full bloom, they created beautiful hydrangeas, exploring texture and colour in a fun, hands-on way. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to try something new and express their creativity.

GRADE 3



Grade 3 learners focused on improving their cutting and sticking skills through an engaging collage project. They worked diligently to create unique pieces of art, honing their fine motor skills while expressing their creativity. The results were fantastic, showcasing their hard work and imagination!

GRADE 4

Grade 4 students focused on enhancing their application skills while getting familiar with poster colours. They created eye-catching artworks using geometric shapes, exploring the interplay of colour and design. It's been wonderful to watch their creativity unfold as they experimented with different techniques.



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GRADE 5

In preparation for Diwali, our Grade 5 students worked together to create stunning 3D orange flowers using crepe paper. The process involved carefully cutting petals from the crepe paper and skilfully assembling them to form vibrant blooms. As they collaborated, students shared techniques and offered help to one another, fostering a spirit of teamwork and creativity. The final decorations are sure to add a festive touch to our Diwali celebrations!



CIRCLE TIME / LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

GRADE 1

Our Grade 1 learners explored the environment and discussed how food travels 'From farm to plate,' covering each stage in its journey. Through questions like "What makes up our environment?" and "How can we keep it clean?" students deepened their understanding of nature's role in daily life. The discussions sparked curiosity and a strong sense of gratitude for our environment.



GRADE 2

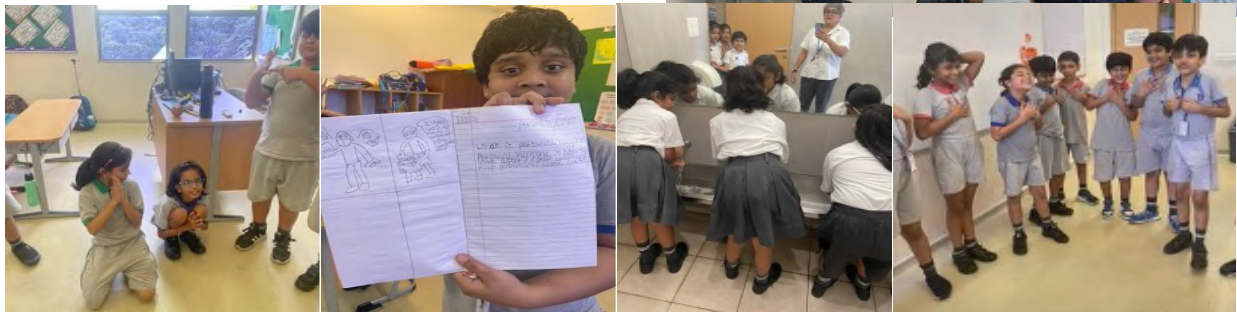
In Grade 2, our young learners explored the journey of food 'From farm to plate' and discussed each stage involved in getting food to our



tables. They engaged in a group activity where each team selected a food item, mapped its journey, and presented their findings. We also ended with a gratitude circle where learners shared what they appreciate most about the environment.

GRADE 3

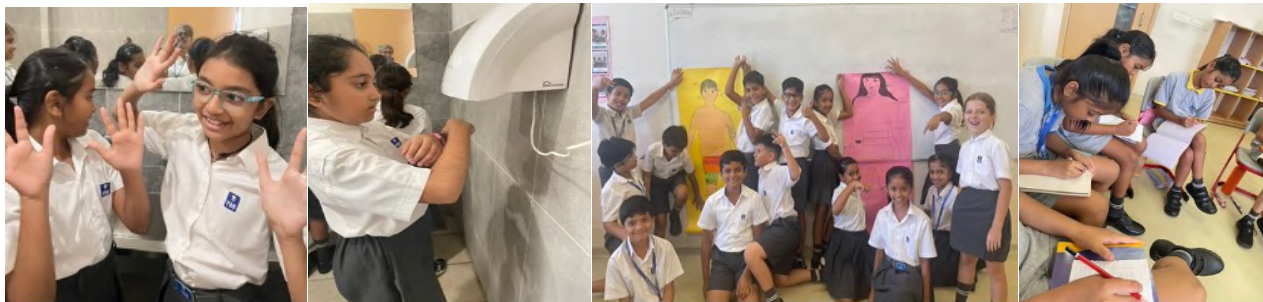
Our Grade 3 learners explored the topic of environment and the journey of food 'From farm to plate.' They creatively visualized a world without farmers growing food, considering the impact and solutions, and shared thoughtful responses. We wrapped up by reflecting on showing gratitude for our nature's contributions, fostering both awareness and



appreciation. This fortnight, the learners of Grade 3 explored the importance of cleanliness post getting more acquainted with the topic; 'Our Body'. This is a crucial time for them to understand the various changes that occur as they develop from children to teenagers. Being able to take care of their immediate hygiene and know the importance of cleanliness helps learners develop a strong self of responsibility and a good sense of self.

GRADE 4

The learners of Grade 4 completed their drawings of the body and explained all the parts including the private parts. They then went into discussions about hygiene and cleanliness.



The learners participated in a germ spreading activity with glitter and were able to explain the importance of regular bathing and washing of hands. Learners took time to wash their hands and dry them well. Discussions also showed that they were curious about how germs would cause odour and illness. Learners also discussed how their favourite food goes from farm to plate in the hope that they develop a stronger respect for resources during Circle Time.

GRADE 5

Grade 5 has gone deeper into discussions about puberty. As they are at the stage being discussed, a lot of them admitted to have lightbulb moments that helped them understand why certain things were happening in their body. They then went on to discuss the emotional changes that are a common occurrence with puberty. Learners were very interested in the topic and we will soon be going into separate groups to learn more about the basic changes that girls and boys will be going through. Learners also discussed how our favourite food goes from farm to plate in the hope that they develop a stronger respect for resources during Circle Time.



ICT

GRADE 1

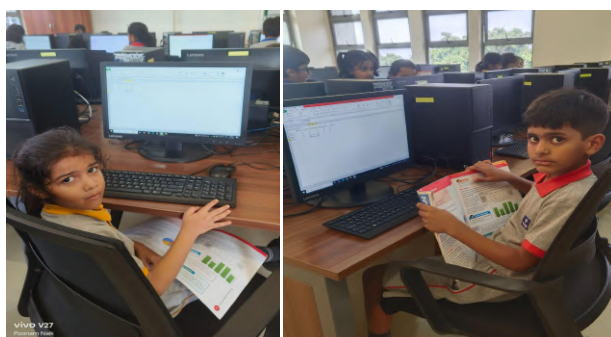
Our Grade 1 learners have been on an exciting journey into the world of typing. They showcased their growing skills by working with the keyboard to complete various tasks, including typing words, sentences, numbers, and

symbols. With great attention to detail, they analyzed the words and sentences displayed on the projector screen, ensuring proper capitalization and spacing. This hands-on activity helped reinforce their understanding of key typing concepts, preparing them for more advanced tasks in the future.



GRADE 2

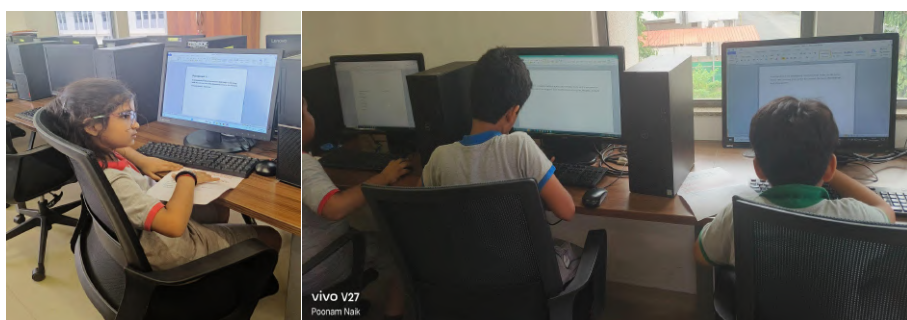
Our Grade 2 learners took their first steps into the world of MS Excel, learning to locate the software on the computer and exploring its various components. In an exciting lab activity, they recorded labels and values on the growth and development of sunflower plants. Through this hands-on exploration, they meticulously recorded data, gaining valuable skills in data management while fostering a deeper understanding of Excel's interface.



GRADE 3

Our Grade 3 learners delved deeper into MS Word, exploring advanced features such as creating bullet and numbered lists, adding headers and footers, and using the find and replace functionality.

They also learned to utilize proofing tools like spelling and grammar check, understanding how each feature contributes to giving a document a polished and a professional look. To reinforce their learning, they engaged in a hands-on lab exercise, where they demonstrated their newly acquired skills, showcasing their growing confidence in creating well-formatted documents.



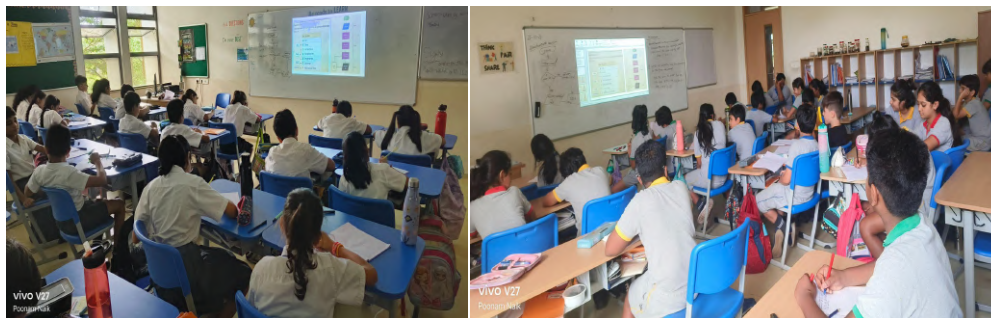
GRADE 4

The Grade 4 learners embarked on an exciting journey into the world of algorithms, where they gained a deep understanding of the importance of thoughtful planning in coding. They

discovered how well-crafted algorithms serve as the foundation for creating efficient and effective programs. By emphasizing the significance of planning, the learners recognized that a strong algorithm is key to solving complex problems and ensuring smooth program execution, setting the stage for their future exploration of coding.

GRADE 5

Grade 5 learners expanded their coding knowledge by mastering the art of writing clear and concise algorithms for different program requirements. They also learned to represent the logical flow of a program using flowcharts, incorporating decision points and loops.



PRIMARY UPDATES

FRENCH

GRADE 1

This fortnight the French learners of Grade1 focused on forming simple sentences using colours and objects, such as “La fleur est rouge” or “Le livre est bleu,” to improve their ability to describe everyday items in French. Through interactive listening and speaking activities, they practised revising colours in French, helping reinforce both vocabulary and pronunciation. Students also learned to use the indefinite articles *un*, *une*, and *des* when identifying and describing various objects. As part of a cultural exploration, students related the colours they studied to the flags of several francophone countries, fostering a deeper appreciation for French-speaking cultures around the world. This engaging mix of grammar, vocabulary and cultural connections encouraged active participation and helped students build a solid foundation in expressing themselves in French.

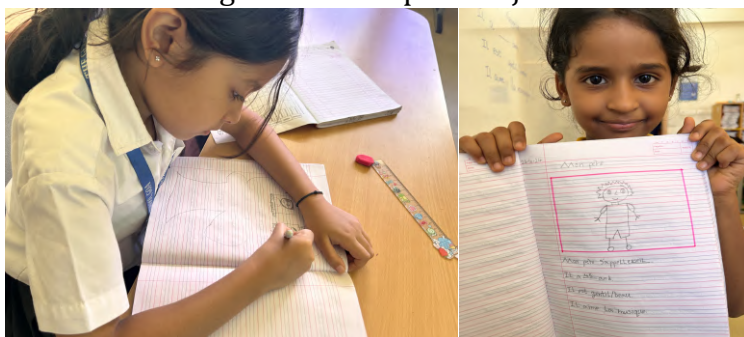


GRADE 2

This fortnight, the French students explored French family vocabulary, learning key words like *maman* (mom), *papa* (dad), *frère*(brother), and *sœur* (sister). They practiced using possessive adjectives *mon*, *ma*, *mes* to describe their family members accurately.

Additionally, students were introduced to sentence structures such as *C'était* (This was) and *Il/Elle s'appelle* (His/Her name is) to introduce their relatives. They also practised sharing the age of family members in French and using basic descriptive adjectives.

Through engaging activities, students built confidence in describing their own families, using phrases like *mon père a 40 ans* (my dad is 40 years old) and *ma sœur est gentille* (my sister is kind). The learners successfully developed and enhanced both vocabulary and conversational skills in French.



GRADE 3

This fortnight, Grade 3 learners have elevated their French skills through engaging activities that reinforce vocabulary and expression. They participated in creative exercises that combined speaking and writing, allowing them to apply their newfound knowledge in imaginative ways. Focusing on descriptive adjectives like *mince*, *gros*, *intelligent*, and *gentil*, and countries and their nationalities, students described themselves and their classmates in simple and meaningful sentences. During lively discussions, they practised introducing themselves and sharing unique traits. To enhance their writing, they created



detailed descriptions using the verbs *être*, *avoir*, and *s'appeler*. For example, one student wrote, "Je m'appelle Claire. Je suis française et j'ai 12 ans. Je viens de France," demonstrating their ability to blend vocabulary elements effectively. These activities have significantly boosted their writing skills and confidence in communicating in French.

GRADE 4

This fortnight, Grade 4 students expanded their vocabulary by exploring the topic on professions. They demonstrated improved reading comprehension by translating short dialogues from French to English, showcasing their understanding of the language. Additionally, students studied countries, flags and nationalities, allowing them to describe people by their nationality and country of birth. They practised writing short paragraphs about



themselves and participated in speaking

exercises to share their background with classmates. Furthermore, learners focused on grammar topics, particularly using descriptive adjectives to qualify nouns. This enhanced their vocabulary and enabled them to create more complex sentences. A review of present tense verb conjugations solidified their foundational knowledge and boosted their confidence in using verbs accurately.

GRADE 5

This fortnight, Grade 5 students delved into the world of grammar, honing their skills with



descriptive adjectives to enrich their vocabulary. Through engaging activities, they created character profiles to describe family members or friends using descriptive adjectives and simple sentences. Incorporating verbs they've learned in the present tense, such as *j'aime manger*, *j'habite*, *je parle*, and *je préfère*, helped them grasp the nuances of gender and number agreements in a fun and an interactive way. Additionally, students broadened their linguistic horizons by exploring the topic on professions. They learned to articulate the roles of a doctor, a hairdresser and a cook etc. in French, employing straightforward sentences to convey their ideas. Each student chose a profession to discuss for 1-2 minutes, which enhanced their pronunciation and speaking skills. This comprehensive approach has not only enriched their vocabulary but also instilled a newfound confidence in using the language effectively!

HINDI

GRADE 1

In Grade 1, students were engaged in a variety of creative activities to learn language concepts that focused on Vyanjan

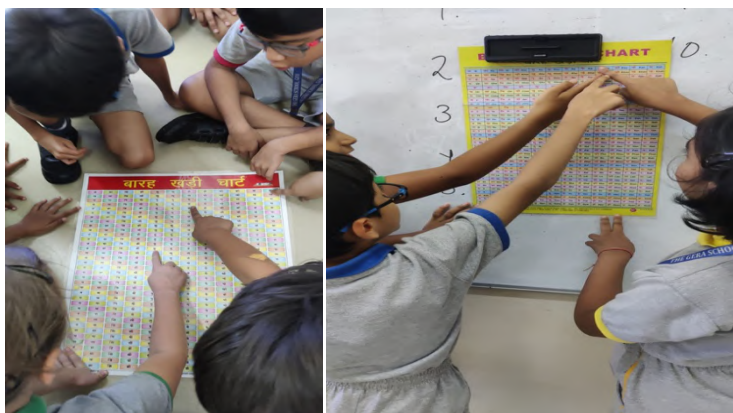


(consonants), enhancing their language skills while promoting essential life skills. They participated in a flashcard matching activity that improved visual recognition and critical thinking. Pronunciation practice through rhymes boosted their confidence in speaking, fostering communication skills and self-expression. Storytelling sessions featuring vyanjan-

related tales enhanced their listening skills and imagination. An interactive writing activity in sand allowed students to practice vyanjan formation, reinforcing motor skills while integrating vocabulary through drawing. Sound recognition games improved auditory discrimination and concentration, crucial for effective communication. In a verbal relay race, students collaboratively built on vyanjan sequences, emphasizing teamwork. Finally, they enjoyed a video presentation of Chitrakatha (Bandh Di Ghanti), complemented by teacher-led actions, which developed visual learning and cultural awareness and enriching their appreciation of storytelling.

GRADE 2

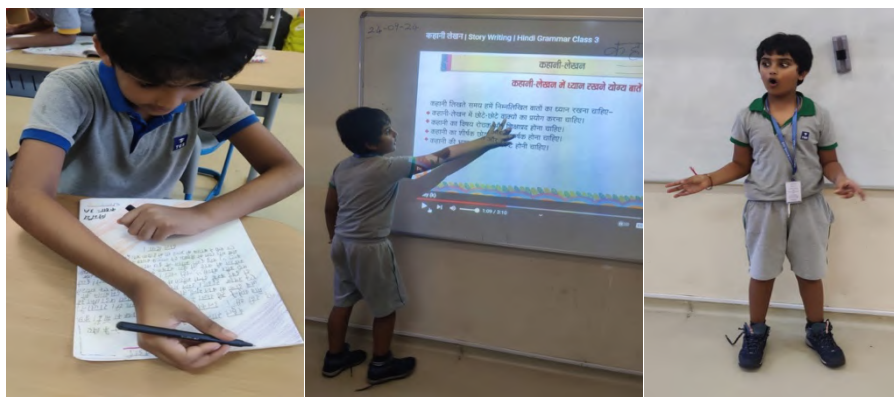
In Grade 2, learners engaged in various interactive activities to enhance their understanding of Swar (vowels) and Consonants. They began by finding different Swar and Consonants from a mixed Varnmala, then added the appropriate matra as instructed by the teacher, which helped build their confidence in reading consonants with Matras. Following this, students identified the matras



associated with each consonant, reinforcing their reading skills. They also enjoyed a word puzzle activity where they created words using different Matras, promoting critical thinking and creativity. Additionally, learners matched words with their associated Matras, enhancing their vocabulary and understanding of word relationships. In a consonant card matching activity, learners paired consonants with corresponding words, fostering collaboration and communication skills. Finally, a flashcard game was conducted, where students randomly picked flashcards featuring consonants with matra words, encouraging quick thinking and improving their memory. Through these engaging activities, students not only strengthened their language skills but also developed essential life skills such as teamwork, critical thinking and self-confidence.

GRADE 3

In Grade 3, learners explored different vegetables through an engaging Vegetable Classification Chart activity, where they drew and wrote about various categories of vegetables, enhancing their creativity and



observational skills. This was followed by a presentation on the benefits of vegetables, during which the teacher posed verbal questions, promoting critical thinking and active listening. Students enjoyed a group activity involving Bahuvachan, sorting with flashcards, where they matched pairs of words, fostering collaboration and teamwork. In a Sentence Creation Challenge, learners utilized vocabulary provided by the teacher to construct meaningful sentences, enhancing their language skills and self-expression. Additionally, they participated in a matching game on the whiteboard, where they drew a singular item and showed its plural form by writing the spelling, reinforcing their understanding of grammar while encouraging artistic expression. Finally, learners enthusiastically took part in an Interactive Quiz, where the teacher asked various questions related to the lesson, promoting quick thinking and boosting their confidence. Through these activities, students not only deepened their understanding of the subject matter but also developed essential life skills such as teamwork, communication and critical thinking.

GRADE 4

In Grade 4, students were engaged in a variety of enriching activities that fostered both their language skills and essential life skills. They began with a Poem Recitation and Expression activity, where the teacher divided the class into small groups to recite poems with emotional expression, enhancing their teamwork and public speaking abilities. This



was followed by a Nature Walk, allowing students to explore the diversity of leaves. They collected various leaves, pasted them and wrote observations in their notebooks, which developed their observational skills and appreciation for nature. The Role-Play activity, centered around "Patton Ka Khel". This further illustrated the diversity of leaves, promoting creativity and collaborative learning. Students participated in a critical thinking exercise, writing questions and expressing their views on the topic "पेड़ हमारे साथी हैं - कैसे?" which encouraged reflection and deeper understanding. They learned about पर्यावाची शब्द through a model presented by the teacher, enabling them to write different पर्यावाची शब्द in their notebooks for enhanced comprehension. Additionally, students formed a circle to generate rhyming words, fostering creativity and verbal skills. Finally, Grade 4 students engaged in a brainstorming session on *Vilom shabd*, where the teacher prompted them to provide antonyms for various words, culminating in sentence creation from those antonyms. Through these diverse activities, students not only enriched their understanding of language and nature but also developed critical life skills such as teamwork, creativity and critical thinking.

GRADE 5

Grade 5 learners were recently engaged in a series of enriching activities centered around Alexander Graham Bell and the telephone, fostering essential life skills throughout. They began with a role play which was followed by a lively debate on whether the phone is the most important invention, promoting critical thinking and public speaking skills. In another enthusiastic exercise, learners wrote letters to Alexander Graham Bell, reflecting on the telephone's impact on their lives, thereby cultivating empathy and personal expression. They also completed sentences with appropriate words, reinforcing comprehension and vocabulary development. To extend their learning, the teacher encouraged them to create sentences using new vocabulary and write a paragraph about "मेरी रेल यात्रा" (My Train Journey). Finally, exploring synonyms and antonyms taught them about language nuances and effective communication.



P.E.

NURSERY

During P.E. class, learners actively engaged in obstacle course activities, encountering various challenges that helped develop their strength and balance. They also explored different body movements, learning to recognize and understand the various parts of their bodies. This not only improved their spatial awareness but also enhanced their self-perception.



LKG



Hand-eye coordination is essential for a child's physical and cognitive development, as it requires concentration and problem-solving skills. Learners developed concepts such as colours, numbers, and directions during parachute activities. This fun activity also helped improve their memory, attention, and problem-solving abilities.

UKG

During P.E. class, learners actively engaged in activities like shoe tin and juggling scarves.

Stilt walking helped the children improve

their balance, coordination, and gross motor skills. It also engaged their core muscles and fine-tuned their motor control.



GRADE 1

Yoga can help students develop strength, flexibility, balance and coordination. It can also help improve their

posture and body awareness. During the P.E. class, students were actively engaged in stretching exercises that helped develop their muscles and joints so that they can increase their flexibility.



GRADE 2

In PE, the focus continued to engage learners into activities to develop team building skills, which help the learners to socialize apart from games that involve the use of a parachute exercise the learner's strengthening their arms muscles while and shoulders. Physical fitness games like human tunnel, human caterpillars help learners develop various fitness components while having a fun time.



GRADE 3

Frisbee sports like Ultimate Frisbee and Disc Golf can help you build strength, endurance and fitness of the cardiovascular cells. They can also help learners to improve agility,



balance and coordination. Frisbee relays were a part of the P.E. class.

GRADE 4

Group activities can help people develop teamwork skills, such as effective communication.



During the P.E. class, learners were actively engaged in Team Work activities like maze running where-in learners improved their cognitive skills like memory, focus and concentration. They were also taught Basketball skills.

GRADE 5

Basketball is a team game that can help you learn how to work together and build social bonds.

Practicing and improving your

skills can help you feel more confident in yourself and your abilities. During the P.E. class, skills like ball handling, full body wraps, single leg wraps and figure eight pounds were taught.



NEWS FROM THE EARLY YEARS SECTION

NURSERY

LITERACY

In Literacy, our Nursery students have been exploring new letters through a range of hands-on activities designed to reinforce their understanding and enjoyment of letter sounds. Our focus has been on the letters 'e' 'd' and 'r', and we are thrilled to see the children actively engage in learning and practising these new sounds.

For the letter 'e', students discovered and shared exciting new vocabulary words, such as enter, excavator, exit, eggplant, elbow, elevator and empty, as they practised associating the letter sound /e/ with familiar objects and places. This activity not only broadened their vocabulary but also helped them identify the /e/

sound in different contexts. With 'd' we took letter association a step further by inviting students to hunt for objects around the classroom that

start with the /d/ sound. They eagerly placed each item they found in the letter 'd' ring, developing both their recognition skills and confidence in identifying sounds.

We wrapped up with an interactive activity for the letter 'r' with a picture description where the learners looked for objects starting with this letter. After finding an item, each



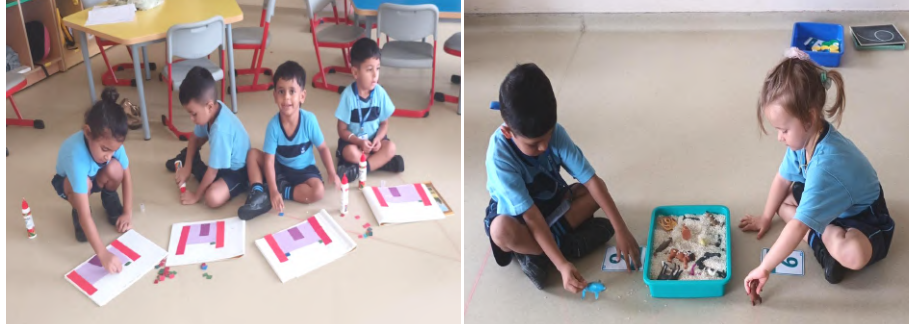
child described it and used it in a sentence, enhancing their vocabulary and sentence-building skills. The highlight was a robot craft activity, where the children designed their own robots, making learning creative and memorable.

NUMERACY

As we approach the end of Term 2, we are taking the time to reflect on all that we've learned and reinforce each topic for a stronger understanding.

Students reviewed numbers 1 through 7,

practising quantification by placing popsicle sticks in separate paper cups. For the number 7, they stuck seven triangle-shaped cutouts along its outline. They enjoyed various number-identification games, including a "Spot the Number" game, which helped them identify the unique qualities of zero. In addition to numbers, students explored 2D shapes such as triangles, rectangles, squares, and circles, discussing each shape's properties in class.



UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

First aid is a vital skill for providing immediate care in case of any mishap. Our Nursery children are learning about safety, including the contents of a first aid kit and the purpose of each item. The school nurse gave a detailed

demonstration on basic first aid procedures for common injuries, such as cuts and bruises. Students actively participated by practising these steps on their soft toys and role-playing the first aid process.



LKG

LITERACY



The students were acquainted with the letters f, b, j, z, w, and v, accompanied by an exploration of their corresponding sounds. They engaged in the practice of forming each letter in the air, while captivating stories linked to each letter were presented, enriched with a plethora of vocabulary. Furthermore, they diligently completed activities in their workbooks and transcribed the letters in their Jolly Phonics books. The students engaged in a thorough recapitulation of the short 'a' sound word family, followed by an introduction to the short 'e' sound word family.

NUMERACY

The students explored ordinal numbers through hands-on activities, identifying the correct positions of various objects using animal toys and other manipulatives.



They also practised creating patterns with blocks and beads, enhancing their understanding of sequences and order.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

The students embarked on an enlightening exploration of superheroes, encompassing their unique abilities, admirable qualities, and notable Indian sports personalities. They delved into the concept of real-life heroes, including paramedics, firefighters, police officers,



lifeguards, and mountain rescuers. The teacher presented an engaging PowerPoint presentation and relevant videos highlighting these everyday champions. To complement this learning experience, the students participated in a colouring activity in their workbooks.

UKG

LITERACY

The UKG grade focused on developing our phonics skills. We began by reviewing the familiar sounds of /ue/, /ou/, /oi/, and /ar/. Students practised writing the entire alphabet with proper letter formation.

The class was introduced to new digraphs: /er/ and /ar/. They explored words containing these sounds through fun activities like associating pictures with /er/ and /ar/ sounds and blending and reading words with these digraphs. To solidify their understanding, a captivating story about /er/ sounds was shown to the learners and we played a game of making words using letter cards.

The class practised writing words with the learned digraphs, tackled sentence reading and completed a spelling check that included /ar/ and /er/ digraph words, as well as number words. We wrapped up the week by revisiting proper letter formation for all the letters of the alphabet.



NUMERACY

The UKG students have recently explored the concept of time by learning the days of the



week and their corresponding spellings. To build their understanding of place value, the students were introduced to the concept of ones and tens. Engaging in various hands-on activities, such as building towers of tens and using loose ones, helped reinforce their comprehension of this foundational math concept. Additionally, they practised composing and decomposing numbers using ones and tens to strengthen their skills. The students have also begun learning the number names from 11 to 20, which they are in the process of mastering.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

To wrap up our unit on sound, the students conducted various experiments to understand how sound travels. One such experiment involved using two cups and a string to



create a makeshift telephone, demonstrating how sound can be transmitted through vibrations. The learners also delved into the world of music by creating their own musical instruments. They discovered how adjusting the intensity of shaking their instruments resulted in different sound levels, from loud and energetic to soft and soothing.

To conclude the unit, students collaborated on a group activity to create a chart on ear safety. They selected their images and added captions to highlight both safe and unsafe practices for ear health.

Theme- Earth : As we commenced a new unit in Understanding the World (UTW), the UKG students were introduced to the exciting theme of "Earth." They learned that Earth is part of the solar system, along with seven other planets, and were fascinated by several shared facts about these planets. The students discovered that the Earth is composed of land and water and were introduced to various landforms and water bodies. The children were particularly amazed to learn about the crucial role of the Sun, understanding how it helps the Earth by keeping it on its axis, providing heat and light, and controlling day and night. This newfound knowledge has sparked their curiosity, and they are thoroughly enjoying exploring this theme.



PRIMARY UPDATES

NEWS FROM EACH GRADE

GRADE 1

ENGLISH

Our young learners wrapped up their instructional text unit with a hands-on lime soda project! They practiced sequencing by writing clear, step-by-step instructions on making the refreshing drink. Afterward, they had a blast following their own instructions to make and enjoy the lime soda together! The learners eagerly transitioned from non-fictional texts to the enchanting world of traditional tales. They explored the key elements of a story,

delving into what makes up the setting, identifying characters and examining the problem and its eventual solution. Each step allowed them to deepen their understanding of how stories are constructed, sparking their imaginations as they walked through these essential components.



MATH



The learners of Grade 1 learnt about Money, giving them a bit of real-world magic! They explored both U.S. and Indian currencies, thus learning to recognise different notes and coins, as well as their values. Through fun activities, they understood the importance of money and how it is used in everyday life. Learners also practised using various denominations to create specific amounts and went on a pretend shopping spree! This helped them grasp the concepts of addition, subtraction, saving, spending and managing money wisely.

SCIENCE

From the dark and dangerous forests of the Amazon to the frigid temperatures in the Antarctic region, the enthusiastic learners of Grade 1 explored various habitats to describe and further identify the plant and animal life found in each. They also reasoned out the unique adaptations that enable plant and animal life to thrive in these regions. Through hands-on experiences and story-telling, students were introduced to rock formation, the different kinds of rocks and how these rocks are used in everyday life.



GRADE 2

ENGLISH



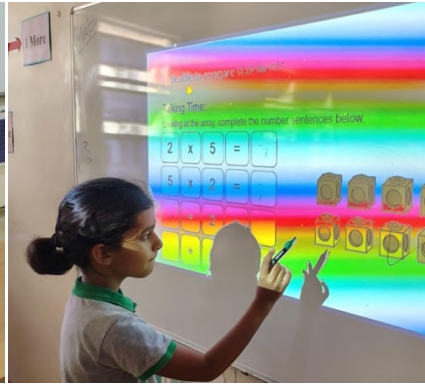
In the past fortnight, Grade 2 embarked on a creative journey through limericks and recitation, before setting sail into the exciting world of adventure stories! These activities sparked their imagination, boosted the confidence of the students, and enhanced their literacy skills. They've discovered the joy of crafting playful poems, like "There once was a bee from the coast, who loved to eat jam on his toast!" – a fun way to develop rhythm and creativity. As C.S. Lewis wisely said, "You can make anything by writing." Our young adventurers are learning to create their own thrilling quests! From exploring enchanted forests to battling imaginary dragons, each story encourages creativity and critical thinking. We can't wait to see where their imaginations will take them next. Alongside this, students revisited tenses, focusing on those tricky irregular verbs.

MATH

"Mathematics is not about numbers, equations, computations or algorithms: it is about understanding." – **William Paul Thurston**

Our Grade 2 mathematicians have made a great start with multiplication! They've mastered doubling and halving and can connect the multiplication tables of 2, 4 and 8. They've also practiced skip-counting from 2 to 12, making math a fun and an engaging experience.

Fun fact: Multiplying any number by 4 is like doubling the number twice. For example, 3×4 is the same as doubling 3 to get 6, and then doubling 6 to get 12. Our young learners are on their way to truly understanding Math as they uncover its patterns and magic. Keep up the great work, Mathematicians!



SCIENCE

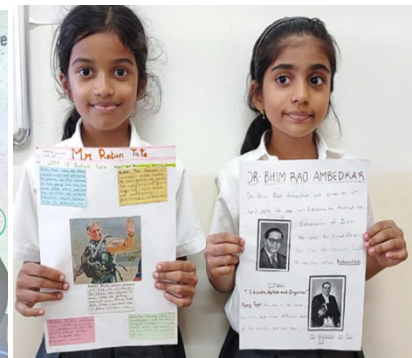
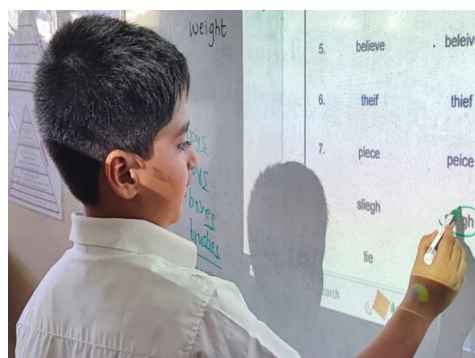
Our Grade 2 young physicians have been diving into the captivating study of Light and Shadows. They've learned that the distance between an object and the light source, along with the material's properties, influences the shadow's size and clarity. The students explored different materials—Transparent, Translucent and Opaque—and discussed their everyday uses. As Albert Einstein said, "Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better." Shadows are longer in the morning and evening because the sun is lower in the sky. Our budding scientists are mastering facts like this and are having fun experimenting with light sources to create shadows of various shapes and sizes!



GRADE 3

ENGLISH

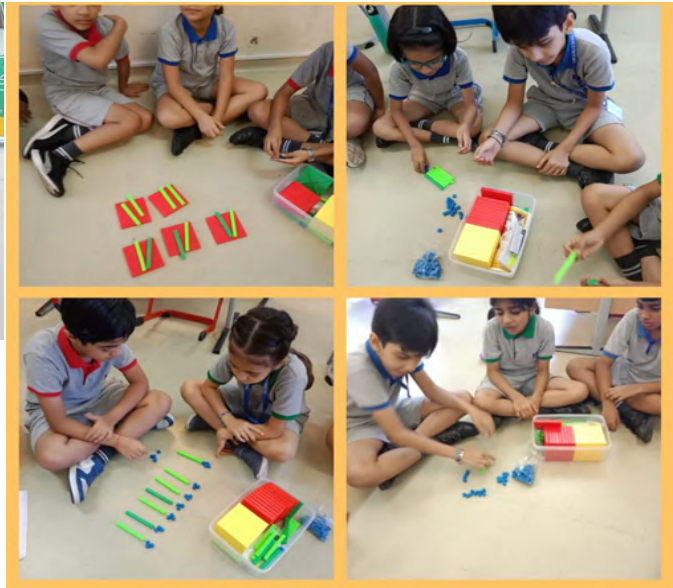
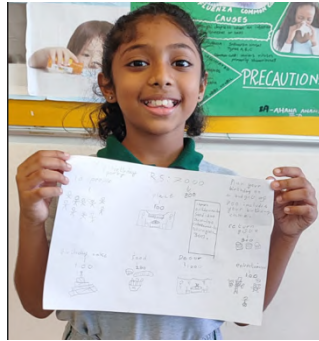
In a world where influencers play a vital role in our lives, Grade 3 learners were introduced to real-life heroes like Florence Nightingale and Ratan Tata. We discussed how our lives impact everyone around us as



we looked at the legacy of these gems. We also worked on vocabulary words like chronological order, visionary and philanthropist. The learners were asked to create a fact file of their own real life heroes and they came up with wonderful articles on Sudha Murthy, Dr. Ambedkar, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Cristiano Ronaldo, to name a few. To build comprehension and reading, learners worked with homophones and spelling rules. This has got them mindful of their writing and learners now pause to check whether their writing is meaningful and has the correct punctuation and spelling.

MATH

Mathematical operations are critical for more than just solving math problems—they teach essential thinking skills. In Grade 3, students have dwelled deeper into learning concepts like short and long division, the fundamental concepts behind multiplication and division, learning *why* and *how* these operations work, rather than just *what* the answer is. This deeper understanding helped



students to apply math in meaningful ways in everyday situations. Multiplication and Division also have real-world applications that go beyond the classroom. Whether calculating the number of weeks left until summer vacation, measuring ingredients for a recipe when baking, or deciding how to distribute allowance savings across different spending goals, these skills are vital. By mastering them, students gained confidence and sharpened their problem-solving abilities, which will help serve them well in many aspects of life. So while technology can make Math easier, understanding the reasoning behind multiplication and division is crucial for developing essential life skills.

SCIENCE

Our Grade 3 learners have embarked on an exciting journey to explore the wonders of our planet Earth. Through their studies, they have discovered that the Earth is composed of four main layers, with the outer core—made of liquid iron and nickel—spinning as the planet rotates, generating a magnetic field. This magnetic field plays a crucial role in protecting us from harmful solar radiation. Students also learned what a tsunami is and completed a case study of the earthquake and tsunami that occurred off the coast of central Chile on February 27, 2010. The highlight of the unit was



replicating an Earthquake and also a Volcanic activity to understand how and why volcanoes erupt, drawing a parallel to the working of a pressure cooker. Learners were fascinated by this connection between natural phenomena and everyday life.

G.P.

Our Grade 3 learners have just completed their exciting chapter on "People Old and Young." During this journey, they discovered the secrets of the Blue Zones, regions where people live the longest, healthiest lives. Learners explored key Japanese concepts like Hara Hachi Bu (eating until 80% full), Ikigai (a sense of purpose), and Moai (the importance of friendships and family groups). They analyzed how these lifestyle habits impact longevity and contribute to healthy and fulfilling lives.



As we move into our next chapter, Making a Difference, learners will focus on ways they can positively impact their communities. Building on the concept of Ikigai, students will explore how finding purpose in life connects to making meaningful contributions to the world around them. This chapter promises to inspire our young learners to understand their role in society and the importance of creating a positive change.

GRADE 4

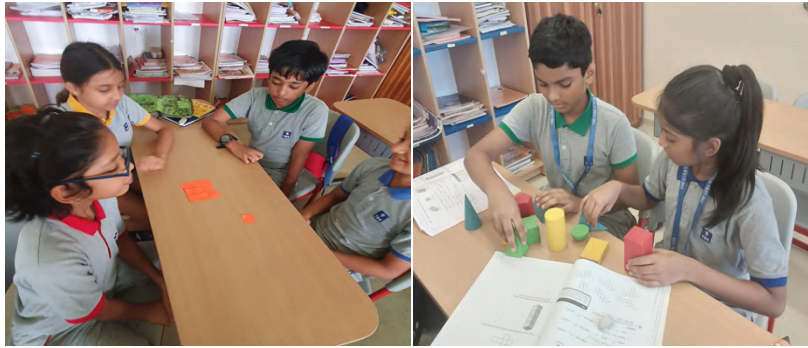
ENGLISH

Students were transported into a world of fiction as they read, comprehended and explored Charles Dickens' literary work of fiction, 'Oliver Twist'. They enjoyed playing the fictional characters as well as had a brainstorming session on the same. Students also indulged in a hands-on experience in keeping with the non-fiction criteria by making a Diwali paper lantern after watching videos, reading, understanding and sequencing instructional texts on DIY projects.



MATH

This term, Grade 4 students have embarked on an exciting journey into the world of 3-D shapes and number patterns, focusing on square and triangular numbers. They were introduced to shapes like cubes, cylinders, pyramids and spheres and they explored how these shapes are found all around us.



Through engaging activities, students discovered:

- Cubes in packaging, such as food and toy boxes.
- Cylinders in everyday objects like cans and water bottles.
- Pyramids, which form the basis of monuments and architectural designs.

Students also explored how square numbers can be applied in designing gardens or playgrounds, ensuring space is used efficiently. They saw how triangular numbers help arrange objects in patterns, like in bowling, pool or stacking games, showcasing Math's role in real-world organization. This hands-on learning experience has not only deepened their understanding of geometry and number theory but has also highlighted its practical applications in everyday life.

SCIENCE

Grade 4 scientists expanded their understanding of solids, liquids and gases, focusing on solutions and solubility. Through hands-on experiments, they observed how some substances dissolve in water while others do not, and they discovered that heating water increases solubility. Our learners also explored why water is called the "universal solvent". Due to its ability to dissolve many substances, including pollutants like pesticides and industrial chemicals, water pollution has become a significant concern.

In their introduction to the topic, Forces, learners learned about how forces act on both stationary and moving objects. They were introduced to drawing force diagrams to



represent their understanding of forces such as air and water resistance. Taking their learning further, the learners engaged in an exciting investigation by creating paper airplanes. Through this experiment, they observed how multiple forces, including gravity, lift, thrust and air resistance interact to influence the plane's movement. This hands-on activity not only enriched their understanding of forces but also highlighted how these forces work together to keep an object moving or bring it to a stop.

G.P.



Our Grade 4 Global Perspectives learners have recently completed their chapter on "Food and Farming Across the Globe". The highlight was a thought-provoking debate where students evaluated the need for food crops and cash crops. Through this activity, they developed a well-rounded understanding of how crops influence a nation's economic stability and public health. The discussions encouraged critical thinking, helping students analyze how agriculture impacts societies worldwide.

As we move into a new chapter, Exploring Values and Beliefs, learners are beginning to understand what values are and how they shape our attitudes and behaviour. In a recent group activity, students identified and presented the values of their teammates, allowing them to recognize the diverse principles that guide each other's actions. This chapter promises to deepen their understanding of how personal and cultural values influence decision-making and interactions, fostering a respectful and an inclusive classroom environment.

GRADE 5

ENGLISH

Students embarked on a fictional journey via reading, comprehending and exploring the literary work of fiction, 'The Little Prince' by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. A non-fiction topic of the North Pole & South Pole, their locations, climatic conditions and life sustainability was explored in great detail. Students learnt about Roald Amundsen's achievement of becoming the first person to reach the South Pole while Scott's expedition to the South Pole ended in tragedy.



MATH

This week in Math class, we dived into the exciting world of Measurements and let's just say – nothing in the classroom was left unmeasured! Armed with rulers and measuring tapes, our students took on the role of expert measurers, ready to measure anything and everything. Desks, books, chairs, whiteboards – if it had



a surface, our students measured it! They even measured each other's arm lengths in both centimetres and metres. One group got ambitious and calculated the entire floor area of the room—turns out we've been standing on some pretty serious square footage!

From comparing who had the longest pencil (there was a *very* serious debate over 0.2 cm) to figuring out the exact distance between the window and the door, it was a day full of fun and discovery. Who knew that Math could make a room full of rulers so lively? By the end of the lesson, the classroom had been measured in every direction possible, and our students were buzzing with newfound knowledge.

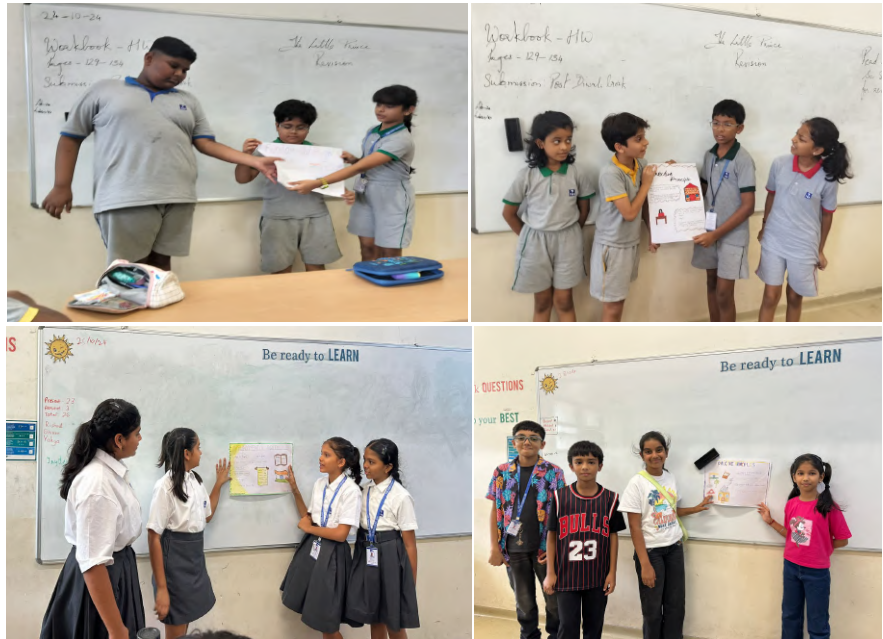
SCIENCE

This fortnight in Science, we have been investigating two fascinating topics: The Rock Cycle and Soil! Our young scientists are learning about how rocks transform through various stages and how soil forms the foundation for life on Earth. The rock cycle is a continuous process where rocks change from one type to another. The rock cycle shows us how rocks are constantly being recycled over millions of years! Next we learned about the basic three types of soil-clayey, sandy and loamy soil and their properties. Our students really enjoyed getting their hands dirty this week by examining real soil samples! Here's what we looked for- Texture, Colour and Components: Did we find any small rocks, plant material, or even little creatures? Students made observations about the different types of soil and discussed why certain soils are better for growing plants.



G.P.

This fortnight, our Grade 5 students took on the exciting role of sports journalists! As part of our Global Perspectives lesson, students learned how to conduct a sports interview with an adult, just like a professional sports reporter. This was an excellent opportunity for them to practice critical thinking, communication skills and teamwork. Before jumping into the interview, our budding



journalists prepared by thinking about what they wanted to learn from their interviewee. Then they formulated questions they would ask and chose an adult to interview. They also recorded their interview. We focused on important interview skills, like Active Listening, Confidence and Respect. This sports interview activity helped students develop a deeper understanding of the role sports play in people's lives, while also honing their journalism and communication skills. We look forward to hearing all the exciting interviews and insights from our young reporters.

After learning about the Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles which are laid down in The Constitution of India, students were divided into groups and were asked to create a poster on one of the topics given to them. While presenting, they had to give real-life examples on how the citizens of India enjoy their rights and what are their duties towards their country. This encouraged them to reflect on how they can actively participate in upholding their rights and fulfilling their duties.

This brings us to the end of this Newsletter. The next newsletter will be for the period 21st October to 23rd November 2024 – and this should be out before School opens in January 2025.

Regards

The Gera School

