

## *Gratitude...The Elixir to a Happy Life*

Dear everyone,

In the summer of 2017, two lizards kept me on my toes, entering through my kitchen window and escaping from the same route. I researched for ways to get rid of them. I was informed by a neighbour that putting eggshells at the window sill would frighten the lizards away.

To my surprise (and vexation), the lizards kept coming and the egg shells kept disappearing.. A week later, I zeroed in on the mysterious disappearance of the egg shells. Two crows were responsible. Egg shells were a sort of nutrition for them. Eggshells provide a vital source of calcium for nesting birds and bone repair.

For the next few years, I forgot about the lizards and kept eggshells everyday outside my window. The crows would come and take the eggshells as usual. But this time, I would fill the eggshells with egg daily .This excited the crows and, as if by word of mouth from the two crows, my visitors doubled to 42. This meant that daily, I would have to now use 4 to 5 eggs to feed all of them.

One day, to my astonishment, I found flowers kept at my window. At other times, I found a earring. Over the years, I have collected different objects left by the crows: coloured flowers, a raw prawn, dog biscuits , a piece of cloth and other delicate ornaments. I realised that the crows were grateful and wanted to reciprocate that feeling. This made me very happy and on most of the days, I felt a sense of calm and was grateful for the experience that the universe had presented me with. It brought home the importance of being grateful and having a sense of gratitude for another person or being. Being grateful would make the world a better place.

I did read up a lot on gratitude and came to the conclusion that acknowledging gratitude decreases stress hormones. I have learnt that gratitude helps people focus on the positive aspects of their life. It can overpower negative emotions.

Start with baby steps. Be grateful for every step you take, for every bite of food and for the family and friends that you have. Be grateful for every new day

**Tips to Express Gratitude** - Gratitude builds over time but if practised consistently can fill your life with happy thoughts

**Keep a gratitude journal** – Jot down a few things every day that you are thankful for or prepare a collage or doodle to show what you are grateful for and pin it up in your room

**A gratitude visit** - Visit a person who has had a huge impact on our life

**Meditation** – Have happy thoughts about being grateful for everything in our lives

**Acts of Kindness** - Show gratitude through your actions and be kind and helpful to those that need it

**Mindful eating** - Appreciate the food on your table

Tye Dutcher, an International Paralympic athlete, described how gratitude changed his life. After he experienced a horrifying accident at just 11 years old, Tye had a choice. He chose gratitude and stated that it made a positive impact in his life. Gratitude is the key to a happy life.

Gratitude is a perspective – it is a choice. We hope that you choose gratitude every day of your life.

**Regards**

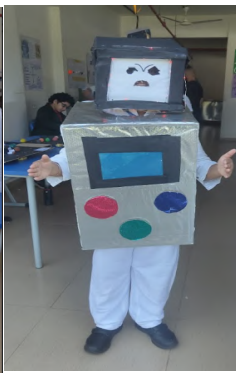
**Deidre Gokhale**

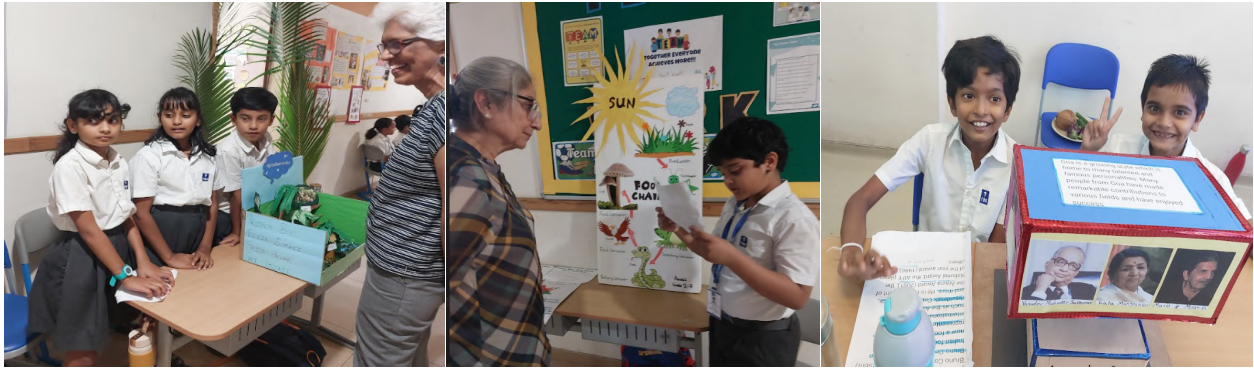
**MS / IGCSE Coordinator**

## EVENTS

### STUDENT LED PRESENTATIONS

The Student-Led Presentations event was a celebration of curiosity, creativity and discovery where learners from Grades 1 to 5 showcased their love for Science and Integrated Learning through a range of interactive exhibits and thematic presentations. The Nature's Marvels from Grades 1 and 2 made models and charts on Habitats and Food Chains while Grades 3, 4 and 5 worked on Theme Presentations integrating all subjects in topics like Goa, Food and Farming and Cosmic Chronicles. This event gave the learners a platform to explore nuances of the topic at hand while collaborating with peers, articulating ideas and respecting each other's viewpoints.





**READ ALOUD DAY - TELL A TALE**

Embarking on a whimsical journey during Read Aloud Day, our pre-schoolers celebrated the enchanting world of storytelling! Nursery children proudly displayed their favourite storybooks, LKG little storytellers shared delightful narratives with their peers, and the UKG learners astounded everyone with their budding reading skills. This joyful event not only cultivated a shared love for storytelling but also played a pivotal role in supporting the literacy development of our young learners, laying the foundation for a lifelong appreciation of the written word.



**PRIMARY ASSEMBLIES**



By starting the day with a structured gathering, our Learners and Teachers are encouraged

to prepare mentally for the day ahead. Speaking in front of an audience, whether small or large, helps Learners and Teachers build confidence, communication abilities and leadership qualities. This fortnight we had assemblies on powerful topics like - The Power of Colours, How to Handle your Emotions, Significance of The Goa Carnival and The History behind Valentine's Day.

## NEWS FROM THE SPECIALISTS

### MUSIC

#### NURSERY

Students began learning the basics of rhythm using a fill-in-the-blank clapping technique to grasp Quarter notes, with many picking it up fast. This term's focus is on enjoying music, highlighted by a fantastic Bhangra music session with Daler Mehendi. Students had a blast dancing and expressing themselves to the beat of the dhol.

#### LKG

As Graduation day approaches for their UKG schoolmates, the LKG students are diligently getting ready to bid them farewell with a touching motivational song. They have also been learning the song Like a Sunflower, which focuses on honesty and simplicity in following your God.

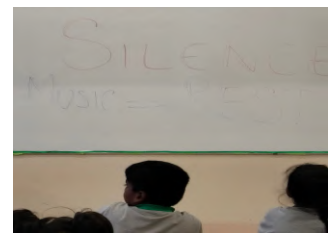


#### UKG

This time, alongside music, some geography was incorporated for the UKG students. Using the song "Oh Susannah," they explored facts about the states of Alabama and Louisiana, as well as information about the Banjo instrument. The students were treated to a brief presentation featuring young Banjo players and Line dancing, which are popular cultural elements in these states.

#### GRADE 1

Grade 1 got a very important lesson in Silence. In Music this is termed as Rest or Pause, referring to the different values of rests corresponding to beats and notation. They were given an understanding that it's not how many notes or beats are played, but the rests in between that make those notes and beats important and valuable.



#### GRADE 2

Grade 2 learners are focusing on their melodic scale and singing exercises. Through videos, they practised and are getting used to singing skipped notes and in different keys. They are now being given exercises in note values and many are able to understand and clap along easily.



### GRADE 3

The learners of Grade 3 worked on singing while moving their bodies. Through this activity, learners learned to express the emotion and action of the song. We began with a simple song, the lyrics of which are: *Lean forward, lean backward, to the left, to the right; stand up, sit down, to the left, to the right.* Learners enjoyed singing the song at different speeds, which also allowed them to understand the movement of tempo. The learners have also been enjoying our new addition of 10-minute games, where we spend the last ten minutes of class playing musical games. A class favourite has been *Musical Chairs* while singing and dancing along to the songs we've learned! We've also just begun learning a fun new song titled "On the sunny side of the street".



### GRADE 4

Learners of Grade 4 have been learning how different songs have similar beats, styles, and chord structures, which allows us to create fun and interesting medleys. This concept was illustrated using three songs: "When the saints go marching in", "Swing low sweet chariot" and "I wanna sing". The learners quickly picked up the three songs, after which we sang them as a medley. To make things more interesting, learners were split into three groups, and each group was assigned one song. We sang the songs as a canon, seeing which group could best hold on to their song. This taught the learners to listen to each other; focusing on their part while still paying attention to the others. We have also started learning a new song called "Glorious" by David Archuleta.



### GRADE 5

Grade 5 has begun a new song called "You Are The Reason" by Sylvia Wong, in preparation for their upcoming Graduation Day. The heart-touching lyrics of the song had emotions running high. It was truly moving to see the love that the learners have for their teachers. To mix things up a little, we also had some fun with body percussion to the theme song of The Addams Family!

### DANCE

## NURSERY

During dance class, Nursery students are having a great time discovering how to move in a coordinated direction. Alongside our usual enjoyable dances such as the waka-waka, happy dance, and freeze dance, students were tasked with dancing in a circle, all moving in sync. When some students started moving in the opposite direction, it disrupted the flow of the dance. To prevent collisions, the children quickly realized that dancing in unison made the movements smoother and easier for everyone.



## LKG

The LKG students had an enjoyable dance session using pompoms as props. Each student had the opportunity to explore how they could use their pompoms to add vibrancy to their dance steps.



## UKG

In class, the UKG students learned a new dance called the Mexican Hat Dance and were eager to master their moves. The dance involves shifting body weight from foot to foot in rhythm with the music, which some students found a bit challenging. They also practised twirling with their arms held in a stylized manner and concluded with a curtsy or bow.



## GRADE 1

Grade 1 learners continue to learn basic Ballet movement and after a thorough revision of what were learnt last time, learners also learnt how to stand in 2nd position and do a plie in second. Learners learnt the Bourree turn and how to perform an Arabesque. A lot of time is spent in correcting posture which is a big challenge for most learners as many are still in the process of developing better body control. To make learning a little more fun and for all the foreign terms to remain in their memory, we usually play a dance game or quiz later in the class where I perform the movement and the learner who can tell me the name of that movement or position wins a sticker.



## GRADE 2

Apart from the revision of all that was done earlier in Dance class; namely the basic Ballet movement being taught, learners have added the Bourree Turn, Arabesque and chasse to their repertoire. The dance game played with the 2nd Graders involves me calling out the dance term, and then the learner demonstrating how it's done. Even a good attempt receives a sticker, because perfection is many practices away.



## GRADE 3

In Dance class, the Grade 3 Salseros have learnt new moves in the form of more complex footwork and a little bit of arm styling. While there are a few learners who are taking a longer time to pick up the movement, many are doing a marvellous job.



## GRADE 4

Grade 4 learners have added a travelling step, some twists and arm styling to their bag of Salsa dance moves and are keen to learn more dance steps in each class.



## GRADE 5

Grade 5 learners have learnt most of the major footwork patterns and many practice at home which is noticeable in class. Their eagerness and ability have allowed us to progress to dancing with a partner in an open hold.



## DRAMA

## NURSERY

In Nursery, our drama class focused on Story Dramatization, Improv, and Mini Monologues. It was a fantastic opportunity for children to unleash their creativity, improve communication skills, and enjoy drama. We fostered a supportive and positive environment where children felt comfortable expressing themselves freely.



## LKG

In LKG, we delved into a fun story and the children eagerly brought it to life through dramatization. Story dramatization encouraged them to step into the shoes of various characters, act out scenes, and brainstorm new ideas.



We experimented with body movements, gestures, voice modulation, and facial expressions to enrich our performance. In Drama class, we foster creativity and improvisation to animate the story through dramatic play. Through this, students learn collaboration and expressiveness effortlessly.

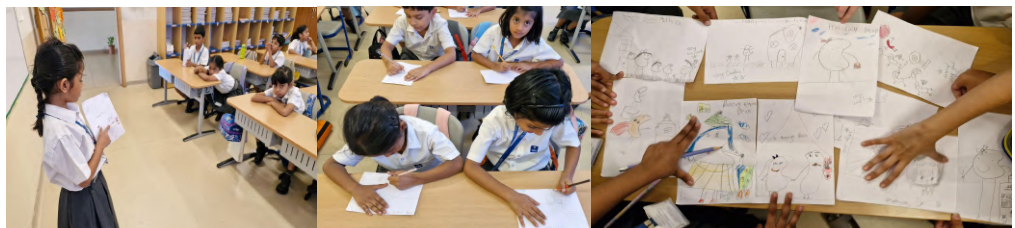
## UKG

The UKG students are preparing to perform a mini-scene titled "Bean Story," and we're thrilled about the character we've created. The children have beautifully illustrated their own Bean character and are now crafting simple sentences for the character based on the scene and storyline. We'll be using basic props and costumes to bring our character and story to life. In this drama activity, we're encouraging the children to add their own twists, expressions, and actions to make the scene even more delightful and engaging. The emphasis is on creativity and experiencing the joy of dramatic play.



## GRADE 1

In Grade 1 the learners enjoy participating in the dramatic energisers. We decided to also work on a Bean



story activity and level up. The learners were super excited to create their own bean character. They immediately created lines for their monologues. The learners were excited as they had to 'Eenie meenie mo' on their character portrayal choice since they had a whole



lot of ideas popping up in their minds. We will be showcasing our character and story plot during the next Drama class. The learners are encouraged to add their own lines, actions, and creative elements to make the scenes uniquely their own. The key is to have fun and let their imaginations soar!

## GRADE 2

The learners of Grade 2 were engaged in a drama activity called



Guided Imagery Story drawing. Guided imagery stories with drawing involve a combination of storytelling and visual expression. These activities encourage learners to listen to a narrative while creating drawings or illustrations that reflect their interpretation of the story or scene. This process allows them to engage both their auditory and visual senses, fostering creativity and imagination. We also use sensory elements such as sounds to enhance creativity and expressive thinking.



The learners were then asked to present their story and illustration to the class. We had a range of beautiful story plots from our creative and enthusiastic learners.

## GRADE 3

We continued our activities on Puppets for Grade 3 learners. Once they created or sourced out their very own puppets, they had to narrate a story about their puppets as well. Here we saw teamwork and creativity at play as four of them got together to make puppets for the story of the Three Little Pigs.



## GRADES 4 & 5

Grades 4 and Grade 5 were taught how to work in groups through various exercises and activities such as Pass the Face – where each child had to make an expression and pass it on clockwise, Move It like Me – This exercise involved learners doing any movement using hands and feet, which was imitated by the rest, and Stages of Life – where learners moved as per the various stages of life that were called out randomly such as, toddlers, teenagers, young adults, senior citizens. In the second round, they added emotions and expressions such as joy, sadness, anger etc.



## ART NURSERY

During Valentine's week, the learners had fun creating a heart-shaped board resembling a lollipop. They learned finger



painting techniques, focusing on controlling hand pressure to adjust colour thickness and using the right amount of paint for optimal results. This activity enhanced their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

## LKG

The learners were guided through the process of creating a snail step by step, with interactive sessions, to understand the various body parts of the snail. It was delightful to see some of them develop a fondness for snails and share stories about their encounter with them. They were given the freedom to choose their own colour scheme using oil pastels. The session focused on raising awareness and practising observation skills, particularly in drawing snails and other elements in stages.



## UKG

During a two-period session, learners created hot air balloon art and craft, exploring various skills and techniques. The first part involved understanding spatial concepts as students engaged in finger painting within a designated area. They then utilized craft paper and wool to craft the basket for the hot air balloon. Children were enthusiastic about using multiple materials in a single project and gradually comprehending their roles in completing the artwork.



## GRADE 1

The Grade 1 learners enthusiastically engaged in practising Collage Art, exploring both tearing and cutting techniques. Through hands-on activities, they developed fine motor skills and creative expression. Tearing allowed them to experiment with textures and create organic shapes, while cutting enabled them to refine their control and precision. This tactile experience fostered their imagination as they assembled pieces to form vibrant compositions. Collage not only encouraged artistic exploration but also nurtured problem-solving skills as they experimented with arrangement and composition. Overall, the process of collage provided an enriching and playful avenue for young learners to express themselves creatively and develop essential skills.



## GRADE 2

Collage describes both the creative imagination with skills and techniques involved throughout the process. An artwork on the topic of Sea was made by the learners using a cool and warm colour scheme. Hand torn papers were used wherein torn bits of a variety of papers were used to fill in the space and to add texture to the surface. Collage is great for developing fine motor skills, and an awareness of composition, colour and design. Through this, concentration skills are tested as well.



## GRADE 3

The Grade 3 learners were introduced to the captivating art of watercolour painting through the wet-in-wet technique. Guided by their teacher, they explored the process of applying wet paint onto wet paper, discovering the magical effects that unfold as colours blend into one another. With brushes in hand and palettes of vibrant hues, they learned to embrace the fluidity of watercolours, allowing their creativity to flow freely. Through experimentation and practice, they gained a deeper understanding of how to control the intensity and movement of pigments on the wet surface.



## GRADE 4

In their exploration of Art, the Grade 4 learners were introduced to the iconic works of the renowned artist Marc Chagall. Through engaging lessons and hands-on activities, they delved into Chagall's distinctive style characterised by dreamlike compositions, vibrant colours, and fantastical imagery. Immersing themselves in Chagall's world, they gained insight into his unique artistic vision and the cultural influences that shaped his work. The learners not only studied Chagall's masterpieces but also learned how to paint like him. They experimented with techniques such as bold brushstrokes, imaginative symbolism, and surreal juxtapositions to capture the essence of Chagall's artistic expression. Through this process, they honed their observational skills, developed their understanding of colour theory and explored the power of storytelling through Art.



## GRADE 5

Collage describes both the creative imagination with skills and techniques involved throughout the process. An artwork by the learners was made using different colours for a simple landscape. Hand torn papers were used to fill in space and to add texture to the surface. Collage is great for developing fine motor skills, and an awareness of composition, colour and design. Concentration skills are tested as well. In this project learners were also told to create mix media where they could incorporate poster colour or water colour in their collage and have a sense about different surfaces and observe its results.



## CIRCLE TIME / LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

### GRADE 1

We started a new topic in the last few weeks. It was a topic of utmost importance for us and for interaction with others: Patience. This subject was slowly explained to this grade for their understanding. We did role plays to show impatience and then discussed how we could reverse the reactions. The class enjoyed showing impatience, many of them could relate to what they do with each other. We then spoke about Patience and the significance of developing this quality. We decided to move the topic gradually to include why and how we can show patience in our environment and with the people around us.



## GRADE 2

We began a new topic in the last few weeks, a life skill of utmost importance for all of us - Patience. The topic was slowly explained to the learners for their understanding. Patience is a subtle emotional concept which needs experience rather than just intellectually understanding it. Therefore role plays were done to show impatience and then we discussed how to reverse our reactions to change the result. The class enjoyed showing impatience, many of them could relate to what they do with each other. We then spoke about Patience and the significance of developing this quality. We decided to move the topic slowly to include why and how we can show patience in our environment and with the people around us.



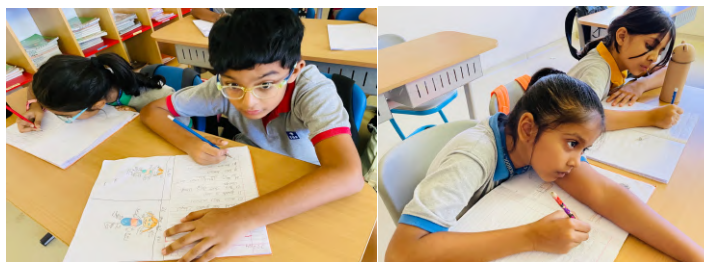
## GRADE 3

Our new topic for the last few weeks, was a life skill of utmost importance for all of us - Patience. The topic was slowly explained to the learners for their understanding. Patience is a subtle emotional concept which needs experience more than an intellectual understanding of it. To create experiences and understanding, role plays were done to show impatience followed by how to reverse our reactions to change the result. We used clichés like 'work gets done' and not say 'want it right now'. The class enjoyed showing impatience because they could relate to what they do with each other. We then spoke about Patience and the significance of developing this quality. We decided to move the topic slowly to include why and how we can show patience in our environment and with the people around us. Learners understood the importance of delayed gratification.



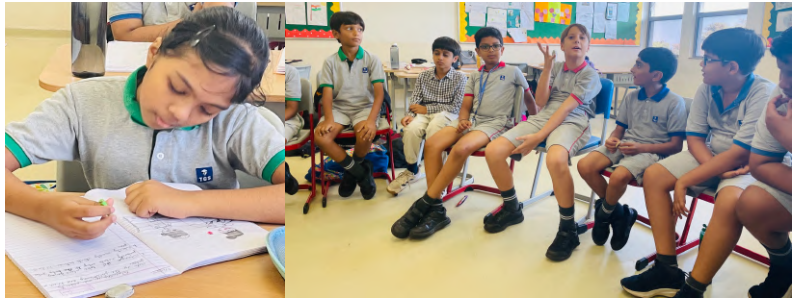
## LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

This fortnight, the learners of Grade 3 went much deeper into the topic 'Growing up' and were able to list down and identify the various changes that they could expect to encounter as they grow older. With every class, learners are getting more confident and less embarrassed. As we slowly dissect this topic, we are approaching the all-important idea of safety and security.



## GRADE 4

The learners of Grade 4 have been missing their CT classes but got a lot done during the Leadership Curriculum class. Being able to speak openly about adolescence and all the issues that come along with it. They have been identifying the physical and the emotional changes and have been discussing how growth can be confusing. Hygiene and safety are next on the list and now that they are comfortable discussing their bodies, I'm sure we are in for some very interesting classes.



## GRADE 5

Science and Leadership Curriculum converged this fortnight as we worked on their Science chapter on the Reproductive System. The technical terms and the Biology of it all made for some interesting conversations. However, the emotional and the psychological changes we have been discussing have caused even more relatable discussions in class. Learners can't wait to be divided into separate classes for boys and girls so that they can ask the questions they are brimming to ask.



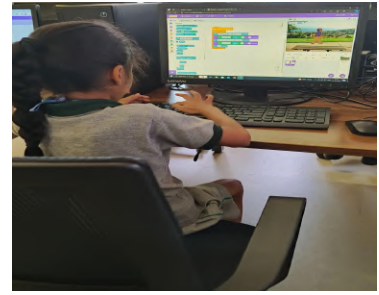
## ICT GRADE 1

Our enthusiastic Grade 1 learners have been diving into the world of Excel formatting techniques! They've been busy exploring how to add a splash of colour to their spread sheets using various font colours and fill colours options. They've been experimenting with font styles and sizes to enhance the presentation of text in selected cells or groups of cells. Additionally, learners were introduced to the concept of computational thinking. They learned what a plan is and why it's important when solving problems we encounter.



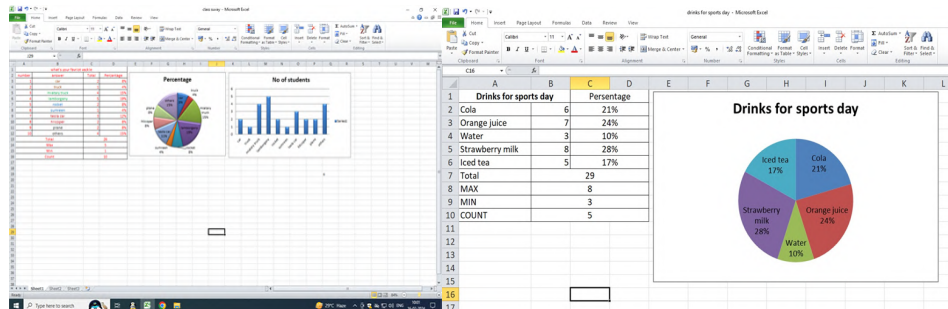
## GRADE 2

Our Grade 2 learners have been making exciting progress in their Scratch programming journey! Recently, they've been honing their skills with input and output blocks, creating interactive programs that engage users in fun and educational ways. Learners crafted a simple program that prompts the user to enter a number. Using a combination of operator blocks, they performed basic mathematical operations on the inputted number. The result of the Math operation is then displayed on the screen, providing immediate feedback to the user. But the learning didn't stop there! To enhance their program's functionality, learners implemented a "forever" loop, allowing the code to continuously prompt users with multiple sets of questions.



## GRADE 3

Our industrious Grade 3 learners have been busy integrating their mathematical skills into their survey spread sheet project! Building upon their previous work, they've been delving into the world of formulas to calculate percentages for the values recorded in their spread sheets. In addition to working with formulas, our learners have been getting creative with data visualisation techniques. They've been experimenting with chart types such as pie and bar charts to represent their survey data in a visual form.



## GRADE 4

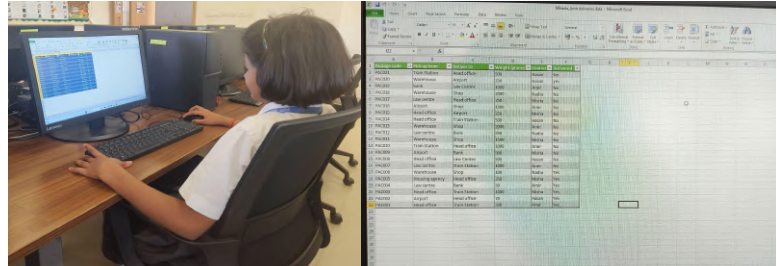
Our innovative Grade 4 learners have embarked on an exciting new project: The creation of their very own game called "Hungry Parrot"! In this engaging game, players will take on the role of a hungry parrot as it embarks on a quest for dinner. The journey began with learners diving into the world of game design by crafting the stage area. With their creative minds at work, they carefully selected suitable sprites and backdrops to bring their game to life. They skilfully set the initial positions for both the parrot sprite and its surroundings using coordinate values, ensuring a seamless start to the game experience. They also coded the movement mechanics for the parrot sprite.



## GRADE 5

Our adventurous Grade 5 learners have embarked on an exciting journey into the kingdom of spread sheets! This week, they delved into the basics of spread sheets and explored the myriad ways in which they can be used. In their quest for knowledge, learners uncovered

the fundamental uses of spread sheets beyond simple data recording and calculation. They discovered that spread sheets serve as powerful tools for organising and managing data, especially for business purposes.



One of the highlights of their exploration was mastering the art of converting a spread sheet table into a structured data table.

## PRIMARY UPDATES

### FRENCH GRADE 1

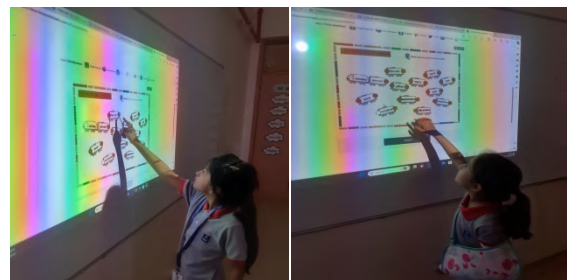
Integrating Music into the classroom has demonstrated its effectiveness in facilitating language acquisition, especially among Grade 1 French learners. Through songs emphasizing



greetings (les salutations), learners have been introduced to the nuances of formal and informal greetings in French, along with their appropriate usage based on context. The engaging rhythms and interactive components of the songs make the learning process and revision of previous topics enjoyable and reinforce key concepts through repeated exposure and association with actions. Furthermore, the songs aid learners in accurately pronouncing words and the incorporation of Music, inclusive of dance elements, enriches language learning experiences and boosts learner's engagement.

### GRADE 2

Second-grade French learners have immersed themselves in the French language through an array of videos and engaging activities. They have recently gained familiarity with vocabulary concerning subject pronouns and have been introduced to conjugating the verb "être" (to be) in French, which they are now prompted to put into practice within the classroom setting. Following this, they were assigned the task of employing these freshly acquired concepts to formulate sentences describing themselves. Additionally, they have reviewed the days of the week, months of the year, and the names of various school stationery items.





### GRADE 3

Third-grade French learners have been delving into the intricacies of gender concepts within the French language, adeptly manoeuvring between singular and plural sentence structures. They have acquired the ability to construct sentences effortlessly in both masculine and feminine forms, applying the agreements learned in class to describe a third person in the present tense. Additionally, the learners have been introduced to the concept of indefinite articles in French and have expanded their vocabulary relating to "les objets d'un cartable" (school supplies), "les professions/les métiers" (professions), and "les jours de la semaine" (days of the week).

### GRADE 4

Grade 4 learners described their families, enhancing their communication abilities. They began by introducing family members and describing them with adjectives, refining their skills. They grasped the concept of gender in French nouns and explored this in colours and other adjectives. Additionally, they practised converting sentences from singular to plural. Presently, they are sharpening their use of ER-ending verb conjugations in their sentences.



### GRADE 5

In Grade 5, French learners focused on the intricacies of verb conjugation, distinguishing between regular and irregular verbs. They dedicated time to mastering the conjugations of the verb 'Faire,' honing their understanding of its usage. Additionally, they revisited the conjugation patterns of 'ER' and 'IR' ending verbs through comprehensive review sessions. Furthermore, learners immersed themselves in French culinary culture, exploring the various meals enjoyed throughout the day by the French people. They also practised pairing food items with the appropriate gender-specific partitive articles, refining their grammatical accuracy. Strengthening their oral communication skills, learners engaged in lively discussions about their daily meals and personal culinary preferences. Presently, they are channelling their creativity into crafting postcards in French, injecting their unique flair and imagination into each creation.



### HINDI

## GRADE 1

In addition to the revision conducted in the classroom, Grade 1 learners showcased their understanding of the concept of various vehicle names in Hindi and illustrated how they apply this knowledge in their daily lives. They effectively explained and demonstrated the usage of these vehicles, highlighting their functionality on different surfaces. Furthermore, by categorising the vehicles based on the mediums they operate on, the learners deepened their comprehension of the diverse types of vehicles.



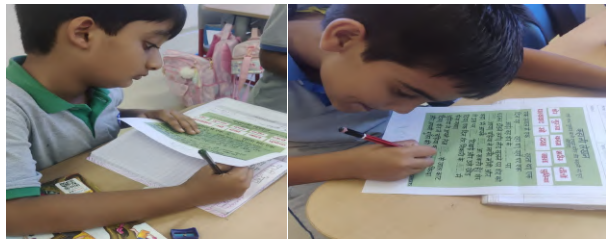
## GRADE 2

Learners demonstrated their interest and knowledge in the class discussion on Hindi names of animals and birds. They willingly came forward to share their understanding of the topic in Hindi, with the assistance of the teacher and a video presentation. This interactive activity significantly enriched their comprehension of the subject, reflecting a heightened level of knowledge and engagement.



## GRADE 3

Third-grade learners acquired the skill of crafting a narrative through a guided process. They were provided with prompts or pictures illustrating various scenarios, and from these situations, they were tasked to create a complete story. Additionally, they were given a story outline, and their challenge was to fill in the gaps to develop a cohesive narrative. The learners demonstrated enthusiasm in expressing their stories in Hindi, initially through oral recitation in front of the class, followed by written exercises with the guidance of the teacher. This activity effectively nurtured their creative writing abilities and fostered critical thinking skills.



## GRADE 4

Fourth-grade students acquired the skill of composing various types of letters in a classroom activity. They were tasked with writing a letter to a family member on a designated topic, fostering excitement as they aimed to convey their thoughts and emotions through the written medium. Upon



completion, learners took the initiative to share their letters in front of the class. The teacher recommended that each learner give the letter to the intended family member for reading, signing, and then returning it for record-keeping. This activity effectively enriched their creative writing and critical thinking skills.

## GRADE 5

Fifth-grade learners were instructed on Hindi punctuation (Viram-Chinh) in the classroom to enhance their understanding of the topic. To demonstrate their knowledge, they engaged in a role-play activity. The class was divided into two groups, taking turns presenting paragraphs related to the given topic. One group intentionally included incorrect punctuation, while the other group simultaneously made corrections to the paragraph, acting it out for better comprehension of the topic. This interactive approach not only facilitated learning but also provided a practical and engaging way for learners to grasp the concept of punctuation in Hindi.



## P.E

### NURSERY

In Nursery, we emphasized the importance of coordination, which is vital for gaining control over movements. Learners are actively practising this skill through engaging in obstacle courses. Such activities involve various skills such as ball handling, zigzag running, and more, all aimed at enhancing coordination and agility among our students.



### LKG

Participating in obstacle courses enhances strength and improves body awareness. In P.E. class, learners were actively involved in obstacle activities and yoga. They learned standing poses such as the tree pose and triangle pose as part of their yoga practice.



## UKG

Yoga has several benefits including lowering the resting heart rate, increasing endurance, and improving the maximum uptake and utilization of oxygen during exercise. In P.E. class, students were taught poses such as the Lotus pose and Triangle pose as part of their yoga practice.



## GRADE 1

Kangaroo relay and ball control (rolling) allowed learners to exercise their muscle movement, hand eye coordination, and spatial awareness.



## GRADE 2

Yoga refers to a type of exercise based on controlled breathing, diet exercise and a series of physical postures. Yoga is very useful because it helps us to control our mind and contributes to health. During P.E and Yoga class, Mountain Pose, Cobra Pose etc. were taught.



## GRADE 3



Rhythmic exercises in which learners actively took part during P.E. class were a great way to improve a learner's overall fitness and flexibility which also helped improve their Hand and Eye Coordination.

## GRADES 4 & 5

Grades 4 and 5 had their Annual Sports Day practices.

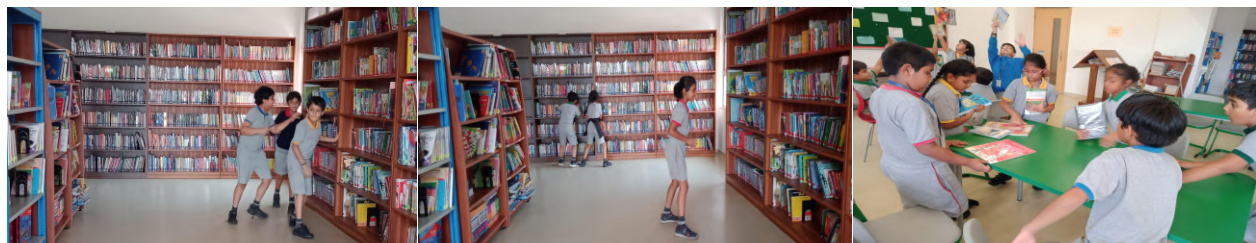


## LIBRARY

### GRADE 2A and 2B

#### ISPY

It's a fun and engaging game that helps learners develop their social skills. As the learners played in groups, they learned how to cooperate and be patient with one another. It was a



great way to get them to look at new and unusual books while also improving their observation skills.

### GRADE 3A and 3B

#### VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE CHARACTER

Characters in any story are important because they help to keep the reader's attention. Learners were asked to pick a book of their choice and discuss their favourite character.



## NEWS FROM THE EARLY YEARS SECTION

### NURSERY

#### LITERACY

Nursery little ones learned the letters /b/ and /g/. They recognised the sounds and associated words with their corresponding sounds. They made a goat associating it with the letter /g/. The young learners in our class recently delved into question words. Through discussion, they honed their critical thinking skills, applying them to analyze and reason through various situations depicted in images. This active engagement not only enhanced their understanding of question words but also nurtured their ability to think critically and draw thoughtful conclusions.



## NUMERACY

As we journeyed through the last two weeks in our kindergarten classroom, we embarked on an exciting exploration of the realms of numbers,



shapes, and patterns. We introduced the numeral 9 using engaging manipulatives like beads and blocks. Through hands-on activities, the students had the opportunity to explore and understand the concept of this number. We revisited shapes, particularly focusing on the circle and rectangle. By sorting pictures according to their shapes, the learners had the chance to reinforce their understanding of these fundamental shapes. Our little learners are now diving into patterns, starting with the ABC pattern. The topic was reinforced through a craft activity where they created a pattern for the snake. We explored the concepts of 'few' and 'more,' helping children grasp the idea of quantity comparison in a tangible way.

## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

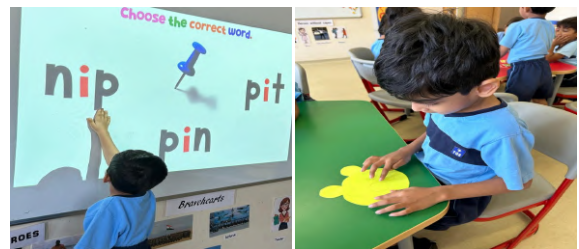
Feathers flutter, songs fill the air, and birds bring life to every corner of the world. In the nursery class, little ones chirp joyfully as they explore the names and unique features of birds. The children in our nursery class embarked on a journey of discovery, uncovering the distinctive traits of each bird and eagerly absorbing new knowledge about these fascinating creatures. Through colourful feathers and curious beaks, Nursery students learn to describe the fascinating world of avian friends.



## LKG

### LITERACY

With a foundation in letter sounds, students are blending and reading three-letter words. Simultaneously, they refine literacy skills by tracing letters in sequence to construct words and actively participating in hands-on activities that contribute to their language development.



## NUMERACY

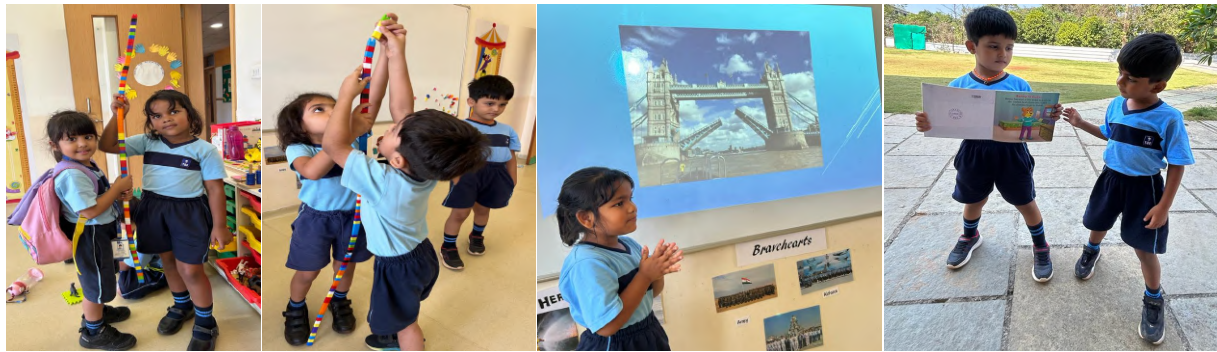
In our preschool adventure, our little learners engaged in exciting activities! They delved into the world of double numbers, embracing the joy of numbers twofold. Using manipulatives, they explored the magic of solving addition number statements, making learning a hands-on experience. A playful recapitulation ensued with a clothes-hanging activity, reinforcing the wonders of addition in a fun and interactive way. These activities

sparked curiosity and enthusiasm, fostering a love for learning in our vibrant preschool environment.



## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Students are delving into global exploration, discovering landmarks and wildlife in Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australia. Their enthusiasm grows as they delve into fascinating facts about iconic structures like the Leaning Tower of

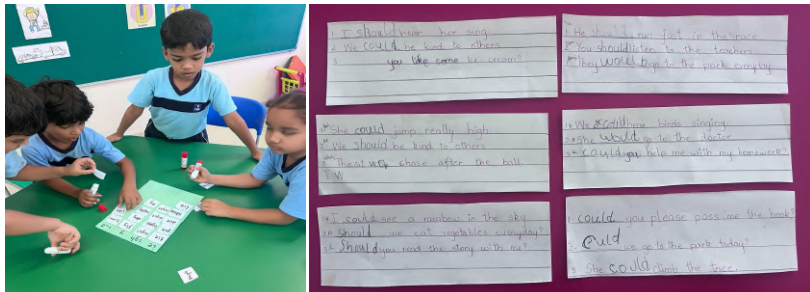


Pisa and Tower Bridge. Through imaginative play, they created make-believe landmarks such as the Burj Khalifa using building blocks. Additionally, their global knowledge expands through fun stories featuring Benny that provide insights into countries worldwide.

## UKG

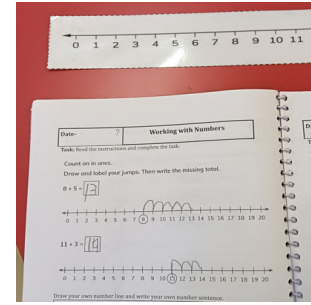
### LITERACY

The on-going learning efforts of the UKG students are truly praiseworthy. They are currently exploring alternate spellings, particularly focusing on the <ee> and <ie> sounds, which is deepening their understanding of words with distinct sounds. Additionally, they are incorporating tricky words like "saw," "put," "could," "should," and "would" into their vocabulary. It's noteworthy that students aren't just recognizing these tricky words but are also skilfully using them to construct sentences. Moreover, incorporating fun and interactive activities, such as drawing pictures based on sentences or matching sentences with corresponding pictures, adds a creative dimension to the reading and writing process.



## NUMERACY

The UKG students created a handmade thermometer to gauge the classroom temperature, categorizing it as cold, warm, or hot. The students reviewed the addition concept through the use of part-and-whole diagrams and manipulatives. The introduction of the number line helped them solve addition problems, and they became familiar with complements to 10. Additionally, the students worked on worksheets to reinforce their mastery of this concept.



## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

During the past two weeks, the UKG students delved into the concept of the force of pull on various objects. They conducted experiments involving the use of an elastic band to observe the reactions of different objects when pulled along with the band.



This exploration led to a connection with the functioning of a catapult. In a hands-on activity, the students crafted a catapult in class using ice-cream sticks. Additionally, they were introduced to basic machines such as levers, pulleys, inclined planes, and wheels and axles. The students examined different examples of simple machines, such as a nail cutter and a see-saw as instances of levers, curtain blinds as pulleys, ramps as inclined planes, and car wheels as wheels and axles. The students gained an understanding of how these machines assist in accomplishing tasks with minimal manpower and force.

## PRIMARY UPDATES

### NEWS FROM EACH GRADE

#### GRADE 1

##### ENGLISH

The young minds of Grade 1 are exploring the world of books as they read extracts of stories written by well-known authors. Reading passages from their favourite books, identifying vocabulary words, and exploring how words are used in descriptions of people and places have enabled learners to grasp the power of words.

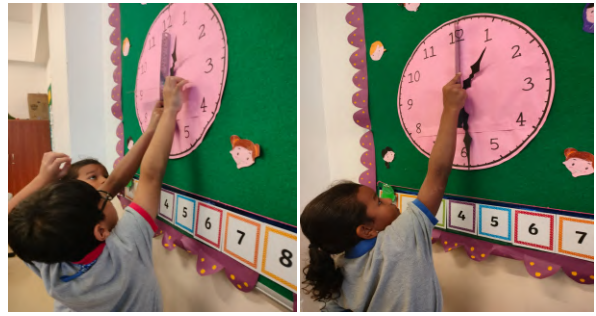
The tender minds have used their skill set well to write a picture description using the given prompts.





## MATH

Our Grade 1 mathematicians' topic of study was Time and Calendar. It's essential to comprehend time and calendars in order to get by in daily life. Young children gain from knowing how to read a calendar and tell time because it facilitates their ability to plan their activities, understand schedules, and develop a sense of routine and responsibility as they get older. Along with teaching learners the basics of addition and subtraction, it also teaches them how to count days, weeks, and months.



## SCIENCE

Rocks! The learners were thrilled to discover the fascinating subject of the various types of rocks, their formation and their applications. They also carried out tests to see if rocks were waterproof and to see how well they wear.



## GRADE 2

### ENGLISH

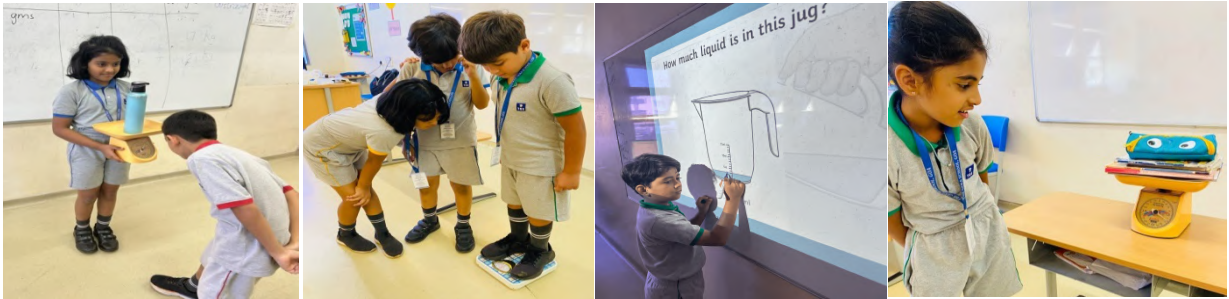
The learners of Grade 2 delved into the world of Myths, learning about its features, how to identify a Myth and connecting to the morals of such texts.



The learners explored a range of mythical characters from the natural world like the Sun, Moon, Whispering Wind, Magical Tree. In the spirit of imagination and creativity, they crafted their own Mythical Tale by collaborating in teams and writing about the Friendship Tree with the moral of *Forgive and Forget*.

## MATH

Grade 2 has been having fun, diving into the world of Measurement! From weighing cool stuff to measuring how much juice fits in different cups, we're learning all about mass, capacity, and temperature. Our budding mathematicians have been delving into the concept of mass through various interactive activities. From comparing the weights of different objects to experimenting with balancing scales, to pouring, measuring, and comparing the capacities of



different containers, the understanding of volume and capacity is trying to be fostered. Understanding temperature has also been a hot topic in our Grade 2 classrooms! It's not just about numbers, though – we're also picking up teamwork skills and getting super curious about how things work in the world around us!

## SCIENCE



We've been having a blast exploring the wonders of space, focusing on our home planet Earth, its loyal companion the Moon, and the intriguing phases it goes through. Did you know that the Moon is about one-fourth the size of Earth? It doesn't have any air or water like our planet, but it's still a fascinating place. The Moon orbits around Earth, and we can see it shining in the night sky. Sometimes, it looks big and bright, and other times, it looks small and faint. Our learners have been learning the phases of the moon and have begun tracking and recording the observations too.

## GRADE 3

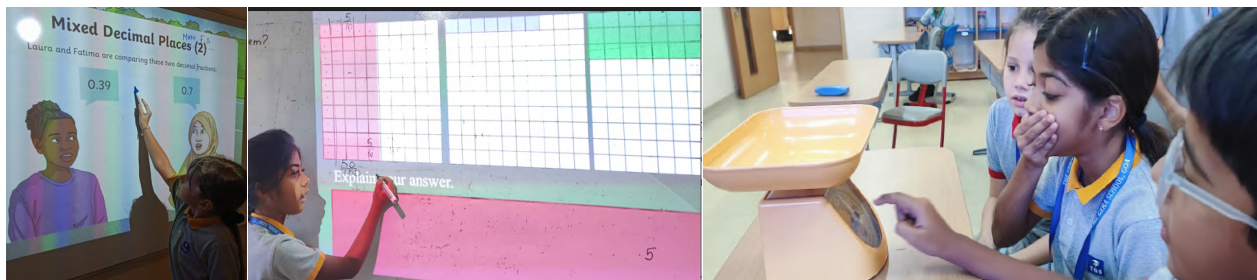
## ENGLISH

**"Colour is a power which directly influences the soul." The Takeaway: Colour can affect people's emotions."**

Grade 3 learners integrated poetry into their theme presentation and their Class Assembly explaining the importance of colours not just in our lives but in various cultures and traditions under the theme 'Colours Live and Colours Die'. They learnt the techniques of presenting their topics using appropriate pitch, correct pronunciation and diction.



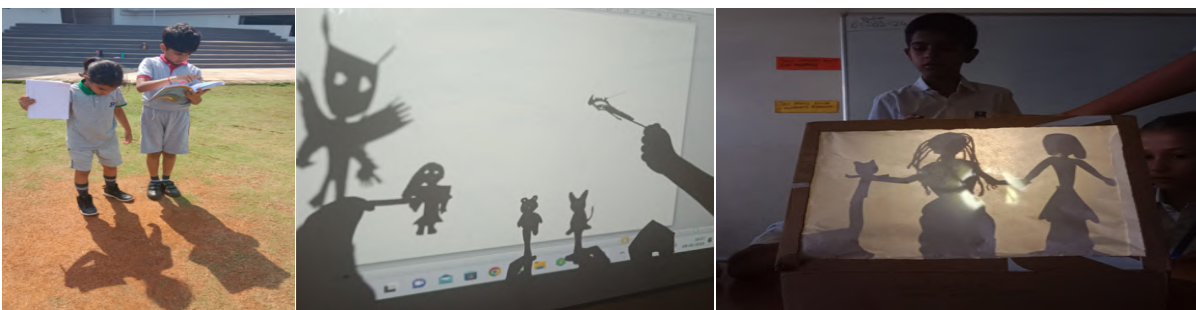
## MATH



After learning about Unit Fractions, learners were engaged in an activity exploring fractions as decimals while shopping together. They were encouraged to compare prices or dimensions with the same number of decimal places, such as items costing £1.67 and £1.76. They could determine which number was larger and explain their reasoning. Decimals and percentages both represent numbers that are not whole. During this session, we embarked on a roller coaster ride and encountered a significant number overhead: 4.12. What could this possibly signify? Indeed, this marked the initial segment of our roller coaster journey as we delved into the conversion from a decimal to a percentage. Learners investigated how to identify decimals and percentages, and learned the process of converting a number from a decimal to a percentage, as well as from a percentage to a decimal.

## SCIENCE

**"The brightest flame casts the darkest shadow." — George R. R. Martin**

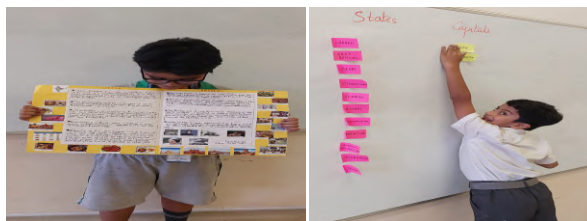


Learners this fortnight through investigations deepened their conceptual understanding on how objects can only be seen if they are illuminated by light. Light can be redirected by mirror. Some materials allow light to pass through and others block light resulting in a

shadow on a surface beyond the object where light cannot reach. As learners grappled with these concepts, they grew eager to use their understanding to engineer light and shadow to produce unique shadows, and light and shadow performance to communicate a story. These engineering practices stretched spatial thinking as these activities made sense of casual relationships between light and shadow, as well as the interactions among the object, the shadow, and the screen.

### G.P.

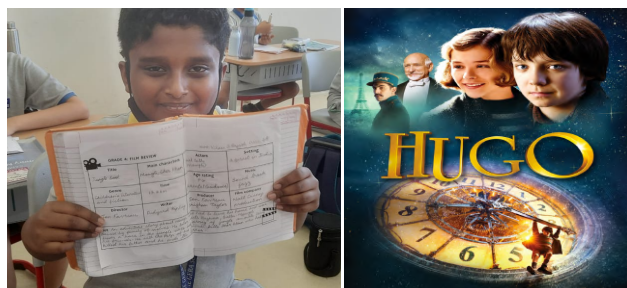
Learners of Grade 3 embarked on an incredible journey where they discovered India's place on the world map. With curiosity as their compass, they identified and located the diverse states that make up this vibrant country. Through an engaging game, the learners matched each State and Union Territory with its capital, sharpening our map-reading skills while having a blast.



### GRADE 4 ENGLISH

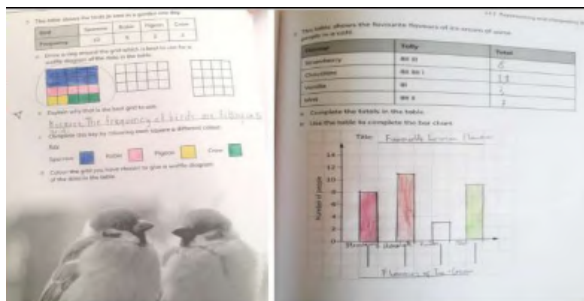
*'Movies can and do have tremendous influence in shaping young lives in the realm of entertainment towards the ideals and objectives of normal adulthood.'* Walt Disney

The learners of Grade 4 have been working on expressing their opinions in the form of a movie review. It began with directed questions based on a particular movie; after examining a few examples of movie reviews, they were shown how to write their own. The class watched the movie 'Hugo'. We discussed the story and the learners were given points to base their reviews on.



### MATH

Data Handling is one of the most important topics in Statistics. The concept of Data Handling was introduced to Grade 4 learners. Learners are gauged on their skills for gathering data, analysing the data they have gathered and looking for patterns within the given data. Data represented in the form of dot plot, bar graphs and waffle diagram allow easy interpretation of numerical data at one glance. Learners have learnt to interpret and draw the dot plots, and compare two bar graphs to interpret their results. Illustrating data in the form of a waffle chart was demonstrated to the learners; they have now acquired the knowledge to present a given data in the form of a waffle with the help of keys that



appropriately fit the diagram.

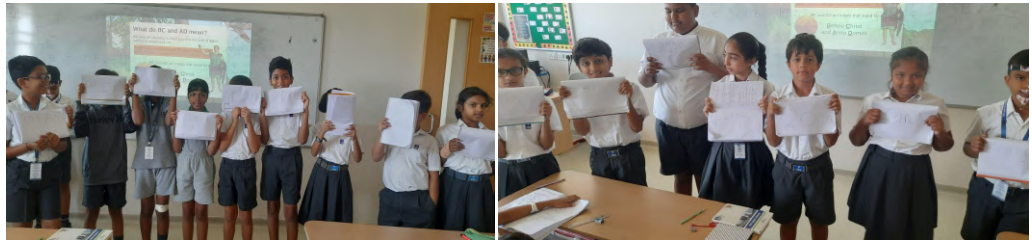
## SCIENCE

Grade 4 learners embarked on a voyage to understand the fascinating topic on Seasons. They began by unravelling the two fundamental movements of our planet: Rotation and Revolution. Through engaging group discussions and collaborative pair work, these budding scientists grasped the intricate relationship between these movements and the phenomena they govern. They deciphered how the Earth's rotation causes the transition from day to night, while its revolution around the sun orchestrates the mesmerising dance of the seasons.



## G.P

This edition delves into the captivating realm of History and its profound impact on the

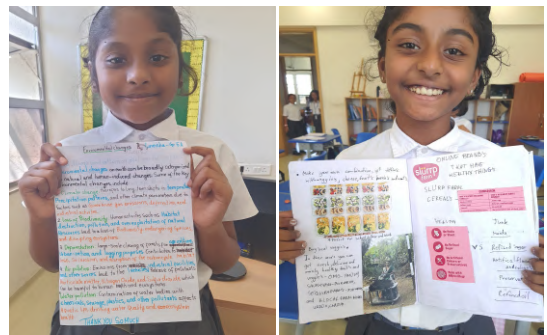


world. Recent discussions have centred on the significance of historical events, spanning ancient civilizations to modern times. The learners have been exploring why History holds importance and the fascination behind learning about past events. Additionally, they have been introduced to timelines, illustrating the sequence of historical events. Engaging in a fun activity, the learners selected random years and organised themselves accordingly, providing a hands-on approach to grasping the concept of timelines and the passage of time.

## GRADE 5

### ENGLISH

People often talk about making the cover of a magazine. But have we ever thought about making it to the team that puts that together? While it is a niche choice of career, the knowledge of article writing is always good to have. Apart from the actual writing, there's a lot that goes into it and that's what the learners of Grade 5 have been exploring. After being introduced to the features of magazine articles and having combed through numerous examples, the learners then set off to writing their own. Each child had their own topic, ranging from Space, Science, History and Mythology. The aim of this assignment was



two-fold. First, to inculcate the skill of research and assimilation of facts. Secondly, to be able to write an article in the style and format of the text, weaving the information through. A bonus point was that through this exercise, the learners learnt a little more about a topic of relevance – and let's face it, that knowledge is always good to have!

## MATH

Ever wonder why the number 7 is afraid of other numbers? Because 7 8 (ate) 9!

But, seriously, our learners have been cracking codes, solving puzzles, and unravelling Math mysteries left and right. Who knew decimals



could be so much fun? This fortnight we've been delving into the important concepts of multiplication and division of decimals. Through practice and perseverance, they are gaining a deeper understanding of decimal operations and their practical applications. In our lessons, we've been providing structured learning experiences to ensure that learners grasp the concepts thoroughly. From understanding place value to applying decimal operations in real-world scenarios, our aim is to equip learners with the skills they need to succeed.

## SCIENCE

This fortnight our Grade 5 Science class dove into the fascinating world of buoyancy with an exciting experiment on floating and sinking! We embarked on a journey to discover the principles behind objects staying afloat or sinking in water. To explore this concept, we constructed an aluminium foil boat and tested its buoyancy by adding stones one by one. The suspense was palpable as we watched to see how many stones each boat could hold before sinking! But the exploration didn't stop there. We also experimented with various objects to observe whether they floated or sank when placed in a big bowl of water. Our learners made predictions and recorded their observations, deepening their understanding



of the factors influencing buoyancy. Through these hands-on experiments, our budding scientists gained valuable insights into the concepts of density, volume, and buoyant force. They learned that objects with greater density than water sink, while those with lower density float—an invaluable lesson in understanding the world around us!

## G.P

This fortnight Grade 5 embarked on a delectable journey to discover the rich tapestry of food and culture across the globe! Our young explorers delved into the culinary traditions of various countries, uncovering fascinating insights into the diverse cuisines



that shape our world. From the savoury delights of Pasta in Italy to the mouth-watering allure of Sushi in Japan, our learners embarked on a flavourful exploration of iconic dishes from around the world. Through engaging discussions and interactive activities, they learned about the cultural significance of these food and the unique ingredients and cooking techniques that define each cuisine. One of the highlights of our journey was when learners marked and named these culinary destinations on a world map. They meticulously identified places like Italy, Japan, Mexico, and more, while also learning about the important food associated with each country. Through this immersive experience, our learners gained valuable insights into the interconnectedness of food and culture. They discovered how culinary traditions reflect the History, Geography, and values of different societies, fostering a deeper appreciation for cultural diversity and global interconnectedness.

**Here we end this Newsletter. The next Newsletter (the penultimate one of this academic year) will be for the period 12<sup>th</sup> February to 2<sup>nd</sup> March.**

**Regards**

**The Gera School**