

BEGINNINGS

Dear everyone,

Happy New Year! (By the time you get this Newsletter, we will be probably be half-way through the second month of the year. No matter. It is a new day, a new year!)

So, how can we make the year, this month, this week – today! – count? Simple: let's start something we have always wanted to do but did not. Let's make a beginning...

Beginnings are not easy. I was told a story of a man who was digging his plot of land to lay the foundation of a small structure.

He had just finished removing the top layer when a neighbour who was passing that way said, "Congratulations! You have completed the most difficult part."

The man said: "What? I have just started. Only the top layer has been seen to."

The neighbour said: "But that's the most difficult part: to make a beginning."

Quite obviously, it is not enough to make only a start. But let us not nit-pick and let the message of the story get lost. 2024 has come!

To make an earnest beginning is to reveal a desire, a want. A beginning will help us know more about ourselves and help us get in touch with the deepest part of ourselves. The want is actualised, the wish is on its way to fulfilment.

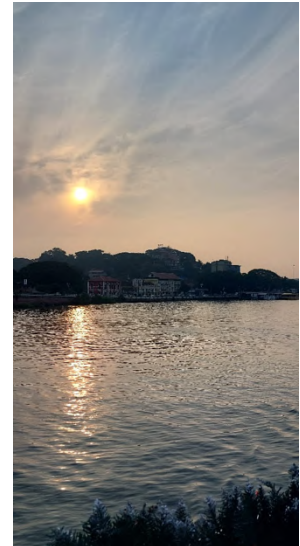
A beginning will be life's longing for itself – *the longing of one's own life*. And, so, we owe it to ourselves (and others) that we use the year to start something that will give us joy and fulfilment, and also benefit others, if possible. (At the very least, a happier person can only be better for the world around.)

A poet said that '*to be born is to be chosen*'. Let's take that further: To be here today is to be **marked**, marked for being a better version of ourselves, marked to take that largesse of goodness, of immense talent and virtue that is in each of us and share it with others. We are fortunate and blessed to see this day, this new year.

As we read this, there will be individuals and whole swathes of people in India and abroad who are battling ill health, loneliness, the death of loved ones, the tragedy of war and of sectarian conflict, etc. Those of us who don't have equivalent privation are blessed. All the more reason to make a new beginning and then see it through to its end. Have a happy and wonderful and fulfilling 2024.

Warm regards,

Carol Joseph
PRINCIPAL



1st January 2024
Dawn breaks over Goa

EVENTS

GRADE 10 FAREWELL

On January 6, 2024, the Grade 9 students hosted a heartfelt farewell for our Grade 10 batch. It was held in the School Auditorium. Laughter filled the air as games ignited friendship and memories, while teachers spoke fondly of the departing students' achievements. With speeches expressing gratitude and memories shared, emotions were tender! Grade 10 students' soulful songs stirred hearts, while Grade 9's lively performances added zest to the evening. As the event concluded, a tapestry of memories lingered. The farewell was not just a goodbye but a celebration of cherished bonds and transformative experiences. As Grade 10 students step into the world, may they carry the spirit of our school, nurturing the seeds of friendship and learning. Farewell, Grade 10, and may your journey ahead be as radiant as the memories we hold dear.



GRADE 10 GRADUATION CEREMONY

On the afternoon of January 19, 2024, The Gera School radiated with pride and joy as we gathered for the momentous occasion of the Grade 10 Graduation Ceremony. Mr. Rohit Gera, who is the managing Director at the Gera Developments, was the Chief Guest for the afternoon. Along with staff and students of the school, proud parents, guardians, and esteemed guests had gathered to witness this milestone moment. The lighting of the lamp symbolised the pursuit of knowledge. Melodies by Elahe Srinivasan and a heartwarming song by teachers stirred hearts. Mr. Gera's address emphasised the values of innovation and integrity. Valedictorian Keith Alemao and Spirit of TGS Awardee Natalie Moreira shone bright. The Principal and Coordinator's addresses affirmed community values. With pledges made, caps tossed high, and the National Anthem echoing, we bid farewell with hope. Grateful for the day, carrying The Gera School's values forward, guided by wisdom, grace, and the harmonious notes of our collective journey, yet another batch Graduated.

EXCURSION TO HAMPI

On the 10th of January 2024, the students of Grades 6 and 7 and a few staff departed for Hampi. The adventurous journey was peppered with fun, chatter and a lot of snacks! The students explored the wonders of the wonderful Vijaya Vitthala Temple, the King's Balance, the ever-famous Stone Chariot that features on our currency and the fascinating Sugriva's Cave. They then proceeded to visit the splendid Virupaksha temple and the 500-year-old magnificently carved Monolithic Bull. The students then thoroughly enjoyed an evening of shopping at the Hampi Bazar. The Queen's Bath was an architectural marvel. They then proceeded to visit the Royal Enclosure, comprising of the Pushkarani Stepped Tank, the Darbar Hall, The Great Platform (Mahanavami Dibba) and the secret chambers. The students were fascinated to take in the ruins of the magnificent place and tried to imagine what life was like in the administrative as well as the residential sections of the enclosure. They then went on to explore the Zanana Enclosure - Lotus Mahal, Elephant Stable and Watch Tower. The architectural beauties, nestled in nature made for a wonderful afternoon. Post lunch, they then proceeded to enjoy the serene views atop Hemkuta Hill. The trip was wrapped up with a DJ party and a delicious buffet dinner. The team departed for Goa on 13th January, filled with memories and experiences for a lifetime!



EXCURSION TO HYDERABAD



The much-awaited outstation excursion for students of Grade 8 & 9 to Hyderabad began with a visit to the Nehru Zoological Park to witness different animal species and learn about biodiversity. This was followed by buffet lunch and check in at Aditya Park Hotel. The Golconda Fort with Light and Sound Show was worth the visit too. The next morning kickstarted with a trip to the Sudha Car Museum which displayed "crazy cars" that resemble everyday objects. This was followed by a visit to the Salar Jung Museum - popular

for its biggest one-man collection of antiques. The boat cruise on Hussain Sagar Lake was simply riveting where they saw the Buddha Idol which is the tallest monolithic statue of Lord Buddha. After a buffet breakfast at the hotel the group proceeded for a full-day visit to Ramoji Film City to witness different types of shows, cultural programs and set venues. Students were given simple vegetarian meals at Ramoji Film City. Students returned to the hotel by evening to enjoy leisure time for relaxation and bonding. The tour operator brought a delicious cake for the students as a gift for them on the last day!

MD'S VISIT TO THE GERA SCHOOL

On the 19th of January, the Managing Director, The Gera School, Mr Rohit Gera held a crucial meeting with whole school Parents to address various matters of concern, including infrastructure development, fee structure, and future plans of the school. He provided an overview of on-going and planned infrastructure developments within the school premises. Updates on construction, renovations and facilities improvements were shared, aiming to create a more conducive learning environment for students. The meeting ended with an interactive session with Parents who shared their feedback, appreciation and concerns.



NEWS FROM THE SPECIALISTS

MUSIC GRADE 6

Students of Grade 6 have been eagerly preparing for the upcoming MDD Day where they will be singing for the play, "A Christmas Carol". Grade 6A is performing "Joy to the World", while Grade 6B is performing "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen". They are singing in 2-part harmony and are doing an excellent job in their preparation!



GRADE 7

Grade 7 will be performing “Footloose” at the upcoming MDD Day, and preparations are in full swing! With students singing in 2-part harmony to the choreographed act, excitement levels are high for this one!



GRADE 8

Students of Grade 8 are learning to read basic notation, through the use of simple solfege exercises. So far, they have learned the notes in the musical scale and how to read simple intervals. We have also learned a new song - “When You Wish Upon a Star”.



DANCE

GRADE 6

The Students of Grade 6 are working on a bihu dance choreography to the Assamese song “Dhole Logai Mat”. The different “bhongimas “(Steps) which we learnt in the previous term is being showcased in this dance performance and the students are enjoying the dance style now that they have become familiar with the movement. Vidit and Noam are seen here, learning the boys’ part of the dance routine.



GRADE 7

Students of Grade 7 are learning a dance routine to a Rumba Flamenco song called “Meneito”. Rumba Flamenco is the pop version of the traditional Flamenco folk dance and is therefore easier to learn and perform. The traditional Flamenco dance requires years of practice before one can stage a worthy performance. The Students are doing well and many of the boys in the class are also picking up the Rumba flamenco decently.



DRAMA

GRADE 6 & 7

Grades 6 and 7 were taught five aspects of mime, namely ... No Talking / Facial Expression / Exaggerated Movement / Speed of Movement / Imaginary Props. They wrote down the explanations of each aspect and then experienced and expressed them through group exercises. They are now tasked with preparing a mime that will have them enacting what

they wish to become in the future!



GRADE 8 & 9

Preparations for the Music, Dance & Drama Day are on in earnest even though some of the actors of Grades 8 and 9 had to be recast. We are progressing nicely with practices; as the production and backstage team is gearing up with props and other plans, come the 8th of February, we can expect a good performance.



ART GRADE 6

Beyond tiles! This time Grade 6 have worked minutely on the mosaic technique. Mosaic art is a definition of a surface with variously coloured 2D shapes. Choosing aqua marine life as subtopic, they have learnt to fill the form with different mosaic cubic shapes using pencil, oil pastels and pens too. Mosaic technique requires a lot of patience but many have managed to complete this in 2 classes with great concentration.



GRADE 7

The students of grade 7 learnt about Wassily Kandinsky, the father of abstract art. The students not only delved into the life and contributions of Kandinsky but also embraced the challenge of creating their own geometric masterpieces. Students were introduced to Kandinsky's innovative use of colour, form, and geometric



shapes as a means of expressing emotions and ideas. Each stroke of the brush and placement of geometric shapes reflected the students' attempt to convey their emotions and ideas abstractly. From bold colour choices to intricate arrangements of shapes, the artworks showcased the diversity of creative thought within the Grade 7 class.

GRADE 8

Grade 8 students learnt not only about the history and techniques of Pointillism but also embraced the challenge of creating their own dotted masterpieces. Students learned about prominent Pointillist artists, such as Georges Seurat and discovered the technique of creating images through the meticulous application of individual dots. The project not only deepened the students' understanding of art history but also allowed them to embrace the disciplined yet liberating nature of Pointillism.



GRADE 9

Grade 9 students eagerly embraced the challenge of mastering sketching techniques. They practised the art of conveying depth and dimension through careful consideration of vanishing points, lines, and proportions. Students delved into the principles of one-point, and two-point perspective, unravelling the secrets of creating lifelike objects on paper. Throughout this immersive experience, the students not only honed their sketching skills but also gained a profound understanding of how to capture perfect objects from various angles, bringing depth and dimension to their creations.

CIRCLE TIME / LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

GRADE 6

Sex and gender are not the same but the words have for ages been used interchangeably. The learners of Grade 6 have been discussing and drawing conclusions on these distinctive words and have been understanding the world around them a little better. Our discussions are very scientific and learners have been getting more comfortable expressing themselves

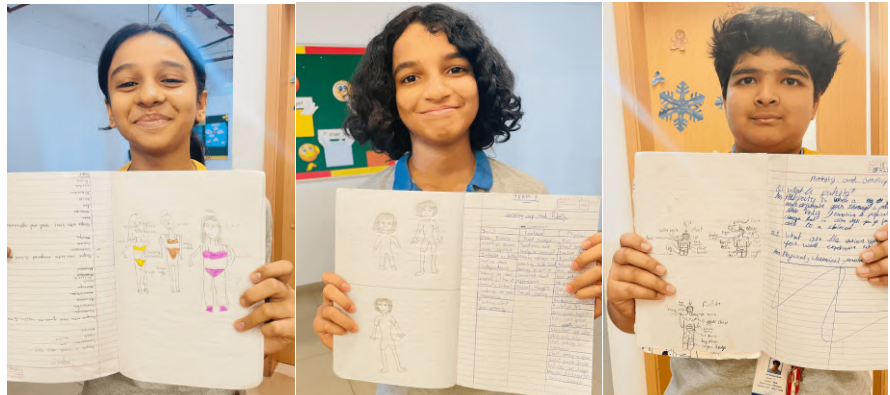
and asking some very good questions. It is, at the end of the day, their own body and their



own mind that has been throwing up these questions and the best way to answer them is with facts.

GRADE 7

The learners of Grade 7 were quite confused about the physical, social and emotional changes that happen during puberty. As they went down the list, a lot of them had clarity about certain experiences they have had. As their bodies and minds develop, there



are plenty of questions that remain unanswered. If left to simmer, learners feel the need to seek answers from the wrong source. Now, learners are gaining clarity, confidence and vocabulary to comprehend the very confusing stage of 'Adolescence'.

GRADE 8



Sex, Gender, Orientation. Words that make a number of people blush. Only because of the taboo that surrounds these terms. The learners of grade 8 are clarifying these terms for them and gaining clarity on how natural and normal all this is in natural human existence. As girls and boys sit together, getting a clearer understanding of the changes they are all

going through, a lot of empathy is also built for the other. There are a lot of things that this age groups knows, but there are still loads of unanswered questions that need to be acknowledged. Through these classes we seek to achieve comprehension, confidence and dispelling of any and all myths that might be causing fear and confusion.

ICT

GRADE 6

Learners were able to analyse how AI devices used sensors as input devices, and microprocessors, to process the instructions and data collected by the sensors and perform a specific task. They further worked on creating a prototype design for their own AI system (on paper) that made life easier for them, using the input-process-output steps that they learnt in class. Learners also learnt how analogue images are converted into digital format, and were able to describe how an analogue image is stored in digital format using both bitmap and vector format graphics.

GRADE 7

Learners worked on using the decomposition method they learnt in the prior classes to create a quiz game that has different levels and rooms, as part of the challenge. They further learnt how to create sub-programs using flowcharts, as well as in Python. Learners used this knowledge to then start coding their Quiz game in sections. They also revised some anagrams that they would be using in the game.

GRADE 8

Learners worked on completing the flowchart, and Python code for their Math Challenger. They successfully created the login section, along with the database of questionnaires. Learners revised the concept of Python lists (from Grade 7), and used the same in their codes. They were also able to use the random () function to pick randomised questions from their database.

GRADE 9

Learners were able to use iterations, file handling, and string handling statements in their programs. They further answered a few FA assignments to ensure learning and reception. They will now move on to using procedures and functions, along with library routines, in their generic programs.

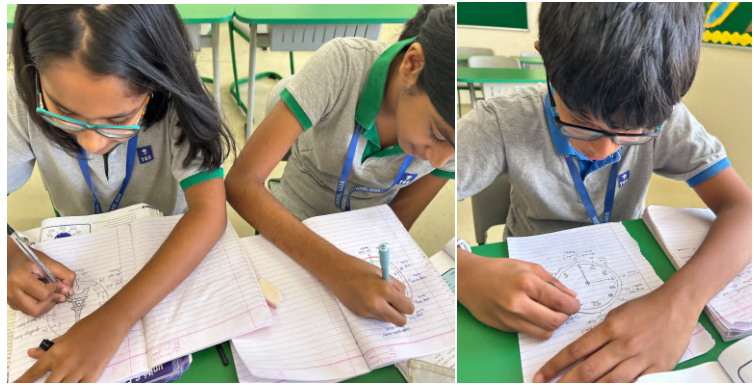
FRENCH

GRADE 6

Grade 6 students have delved into the French language by acquiring the essential vocabulary for providing and seeking directions. They have honed the skills required to navigate through any French-speaking city effortlessly. Furthermore, they have acquired proficiency in a new tense, "l'impératif," and enriched their vocabulary for describing their city or town. Leveraging their newly acquired writing skills, they are now capable of drafting a "carte postale" to a friend.

GRADE 7

This fortnight, the French learners of Grade 7 focused on travel-related vocabulary and practised with the 24-hour clock format. Mastering time expressions and being able to tell the time in French is essential for effective communication, especially when making travel plans. Additionally, they worked on constructing sentences in the perfect tense using the verbs "être" and "avoir". The perfect tense allows learners to express actions that have been completed in the past, and using the correct auxiliary verbs is crucial for accuracy.



GRADE 8

Music has an unparalleled ability to captivate our attention, evoke emotions, and embed memories. Grade 8 learners embarked on a musical journey of language acquisition with the song "Tête, Épaule, Genoux, Pieds." Beyond the mere mastery of vocabulary, this musical endeavour is fostering a genuine affection for language learning amongst our students. Students also gained the essential vocabulary needed for engaging in conversations across diverse everyday situations, including interactions 'at the doctors' and at the pharmacy, as well as on social media platforms like blogs or Twitter. The utilisation of vocabulary was reinforced through a game known as "time's up," wherein students were prompted to construct sentences in French and pantomime within a minute. This resulted in improvements in their memory, speaking skills, and overall proficiency in the language.



GRADE 9

This fortnight, Grade 9 French learners have been actively engaging with the language and culture. Exploring stores, markets, and shops in France is an excellent way to connect language learning with real-world experiences. Additionally, focusing on demonstrative adjectives and pronouns is crucial for effective communication in French. They practiced listening and reading skills through audio texts to enhance overall language proficiency. It not only improves comprehension but also exposes learners to authentic pronunciation and usage.

HINDI

GRADE 6

They learnt the chapter 'Safed bagula'. The students focused on reading skills, learnt new vocabulary such as jhurmut, gaharana, sangrahiit, mishrit, abhipray,tarotaza,etc. They also had discussions about how some people love and take care of animals and how some people use animals for business purpose and treat them badly. Learners learnt grammar topics such as vachan, ling, paryayvachi shabd, upsarg, and pratyay and application of the same. They wrote question answers on the chapter 'Safed bagula' by understanding the questions. They wrote new words from the chapter Safed bagula and used those words in the samvad and sentences and presented the same in the class. They shared their views on how they help and treat birds. They said that they would keep water for the birds and also put grains for them. They also learnt grammar concept kriyavisheshan. They underlined kriyavisheshan in the given sentences and did application of the given kriyavisheshan in their sentences and read those sentences to their peers.



GRADE 7

Learners did the Maukhik (Oral) Oral Assessment test on the poem 'Mere Gaanv ke log'. They wrote new words from the same poem such as Imandari, antas, anpadh, shukrana, gehra, gaurav, rab, bande etc. Then using these new words they wrote 'Samvad' and presented the same to the peers. Students subsequently learnt the chapter 'Safalta ki triveni'. They learnt through this chapter that good health, prayer and having a never-give-up attitude are the keys to success. They also learnt how important / helpful it is to exercise and pray to keep inner peace. We also need to have a balanced diet to be healthy. Through this chapter they also discussed how important hard work and dedication are in order to become successful. They improved reading skills and



learnt new vocabulary such as param ghanisht, sevamukt, karyapatuta, sakriy, sajak, mehanti etc. Learners wrote Anuched lekhan on the topic 'Pehla such Nirogi kaya' based on the chapter. They learnt through this 'Safalta ki Triveni'. They learnt we need to be healthy and that should be our first priority and we should work towards it, because only if we are healthy can we give our best in other areas. Dictation was also undertaken to improve their spellings based on the chapter.

GRADE 8

They build on vocabulary through the chapter 'Is school mein plastic dekar padhte hai bacche'.

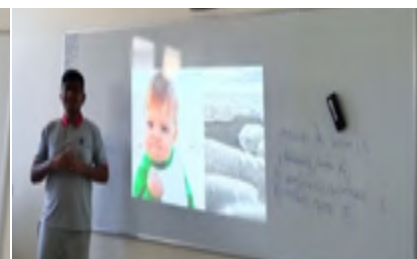
(poorvottar, prashasan, guhaar, abhibhavak, aabadi, bhavan, khadan, prerit, sanghatan etc. They used this vocabulary to write small stories. They built on confidence and writing skills. Based on this chapter

They presented a PPT to their peers, wherein they shared different types of waste



(Garbage), how we should segregate and spoke about the three R's Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

They also learnt diary writing and wrote one entry. They undertook Diary writing via the 'I, we and you method'. They presented their 'Diary lekhan' on topic 'Ravivar ka din' which they wrote by themselves.



GRADE 9

Learners did a Listening activity wherein they had to listen to the audio of an interview and story and write the answer for the questions asked. They wrote the vocabulary from those audio such as prernadayak, aadan-pradaan, saamajikta, rachnatmak, atulniya, samaadhan ,romanchak, sulabh, bebaak, bhraman etc.

They also learnt vigyapan (advertisement). They had a discussion on why advertisements



are important and their purpose. They also wrote 'samvad lekhan' in group by using given vocabulary such as grihasthi, sanskar, aandolan, unnati etc. They presented their samvad in front of their peers.



GRADE 10



NEWS FROM EACH GRADE

GRADE 6

ENGLISH

This year the students moved to a written as well as speaking component of the subject - speech writing. The students were assigned two tasks to work on and as they penned their thoughts, they were provided the additional challenge of incorporating the speech-writing techniques that were taught to them. The students were also shown videos and given practical tips on how to make a good speech to ensure that they presented their speeches successfully! The students were very excited to volunteer and speak before their peers. While we engaged in peer feedback as well, the students all learned from each other, leading to a wonderful environment of collaboration through communication.



MATH

In the Fortnight, learners actively engaged in the exploration of geometrical shapes, concentrating on drawing lines of symmetry and discerning the order of rotational symmetry for various shapes. This hands-on approach strengthened their fundamental understanding of geometric principles. Additionally, a formative assessment was conducted, focusing on functions and formulas. Learners demonstrated their proficiency by interpreting the function machine, calculating outputs based on inputs, and inversing operations.



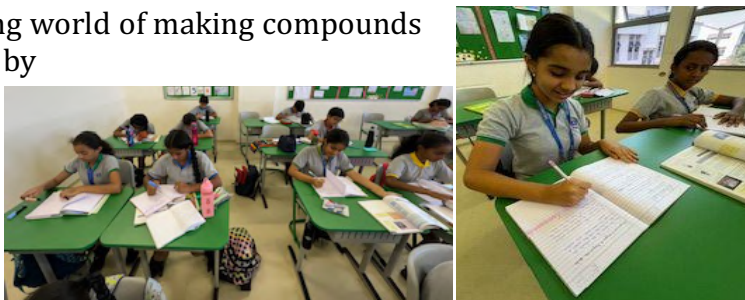
PHYSICS

Grade 6 learners embarked on an exciting journey into the realm of echoes. Through captivating activities, they unravelled the mystery of sound reflection. Experimenting with different surfaces, they witnessed firsthand how sound waves rebounded, creating mesmerising echoes. Guided by their inquisitiveness, they explored the significance of sound reflection in our everyday experiences, from the architecture of grand auditoriums to the echolocation abilities of animals like bats.



CHEMISTRY

The students delve into the fascinating world of making compounds in their chemistry. They started by understanding word equations and learning to express chemical reactions. It helped them to be introduced to the microscopic world and visualise how particles rearrange during reactions. The students also learned how elements combine to form compounds. They also gained the skills to identify the chemical reaction by observing changes in properties like colour and temperature. The students emphasised the essential concepts of compound formation and chemical reactions.



BIOLOGY

Grade 6 students explored the topic classification, where they studied the concepts of organising and categorising living things based on shared characteristics. They learned the importance of classification in



understanding the diversity of life and discovered how scientists use systems like taxonomy to group organisms into hierarchical categories. Students gain a foundation understanding of the principles of classification, fostering a broader appreciation for the complexity and interconnectedness of the natural world.

G.P.

As a part of memory testing, Grade 6 students did a self-check by conducting a Quiz based upon all the topics covered in the subject matter of Global Perspective during



this academic year. The students were divided into three groups (A, B and C). Two students at a time on a rotation basis were asked to be the Quiz Masters. It was a fun-filled learning experience and also served as an effective brush-up to all topics covered so far.

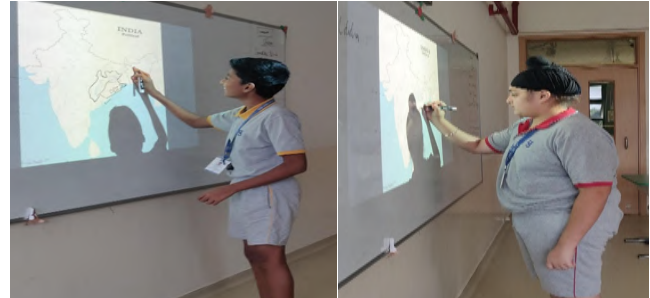
HISTORY

We have finally concluded exploring the Later Vedic Period, highlighting its transformative impact on Aryan society. Our learners focused on the evolution of a more rigid caste system and examined its lasting effects on politics, society, and economics during the Later Vedic Period. Additionally, a test was successfully undertaken. Now, embarking on a new chapter, we're immersing ourselves in the teachings of Jainism - unravelling the life and philosophy of Mahavira and his impact on ancient India.



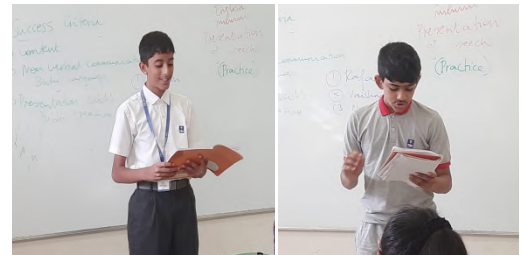
GEOGRAPHY

The students gained insights into identifying, marking states in India and global distribution of major minerals. The geological mapping of minerals plays a crucial role in understanding the distribution and abundance of valuable resources. The students analyzed and compared the mineral reserves in India with other countries, fostering a global perspective on resources available. This knowledge not only enhances their understanding of Earth's resources but also equips them with insights into the strategic, economic, and environmental aspects associated with mineral reserves.



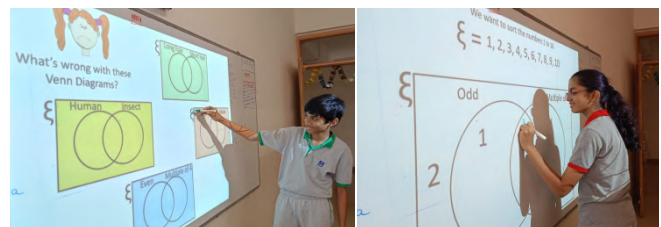
GRADE 7 ENGLISH

This year, the students delved into speech writing, which is a written and spoken component of the curriculum. The students were given assignments to work on and, as a part of their preparation, also watched videos and were given practical tips on how to write and deliver a good speech! The students couldn't have been happier to step up and talk in front of their peers. The children all gained knowledge from one another via our peer review activities, which created a fantastic atmosphere of cooperation through dialogue.



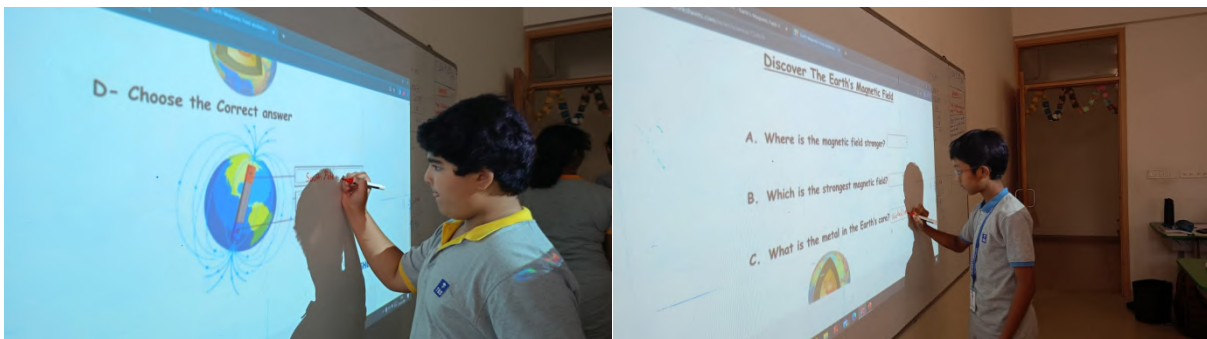
MATH

Grade 7 students embarked on an exciting journey into the realm of probability. Through interactive lessons and engaging activities, they discovered the power of visual tools such as Venn diagrams and tree diagrams in understanding and solving probability problems. From analyzing sample spaces to representing complex events, students honed their skills in probability theory. With each lesson, they gained a deeper understanding of how to navigate the uncertainty of chance.



PHYSICS

Grade 7 students delved into the captivating realm of Earth's magnetic field. Through immersive activities and enlightening discussions, they explored the intricacies of this natural phenomenon. From understanding how Earth's magnetic poles influence compass needles to tracing the magnetic field lines that encircle our planet, students gained a profound appreciation for the invisible forces at work in our world.



CHEMISTRY

In the Grade 7 topic on reactivity series, students focussed on understanding how metals behave in reactions with water and dilute acids. They explored the reactivity series, a ranking of metals based on their tendency to react with other substances. Through practical experiments and observations, students learnt how certain metals react vigorously with water and acids, while others remain relatively unresponsive. This topic provides a foundational understanding of metal reactivity, essential for comprehending broader concepts in Chemistry and material science.



BIOLOGY

In the Grade 7 topic on habitat and ecosystems, students explored the interconnected web of living organisms and their environments. They learn about habitats, the specific places where organisms live and find the resources they need. The focus expands to ecosystems, which encompass the interactions between living and non-living elements in a given area. Through studying different ecosystems, students gain insights into biodiversity, food chains, and the delicate balance that sustains life on Earth. This topic fosters an understanding of the importance of preserving habitats and maintaining ecological harmony.



G.P.

As a part of enhancing their oratory skills, Grade 7 students participated in a debate on several topics covered in the subject matter of Global Perspective during this academic year. The students were allotted topics through lots. Each student spoke on the topic for three minutes which was followed by Q&A for two minutes. It helped the entire class build their perspectives on various topics of academic interest.



HISTORY

Goan history is very fascinating and this is the Unit that we are looking at currently. Learning about the land, the origin theories, talukas, dynasties that ruled and the advent of the Portuguese were all very fascinating for our learners. The activity that enthused them the most was the taluka mapping activity. Using the map of Goa, we mapped the population of the class, based on the talukas they resided in and tallied the same. Having a discussion that tied together History as well as Geography made for very interesting classes!



GEOGRAPHY

In the recent classes, the students delved into the multifaceted issue of pollution caused by industrial activities. The objective was to foster a comprehensive understanding of how industries contribute to environmental degradation and explore potential solutions for sustainable practices. Students discussed the different types of pollution and its causes in a group discussion. They developed an awareness of the environmental challenges posed by the industries and explored potential solutions.



GRADE 8

ENGLISH

Grade 8 has been working on their debate skills for the speaking assignment.

Debate, whether abstract or



structured, such as in school competitions or political discourse, serves as a valuable tool for personal growth and effective communication. An important part of writing is the grammar concept of direct and indirect speech. When writers write about phrases or sentences a source has said, they can use either direct speech or indirect speech.

MATH

Students worked to explore the relationship between circumference and diameter of a circle. Using a variety of cylindrical shapes, such as bottles, tins, cans, tubes, and pipes,



students tightly wrapped string around the objects, marking the endpoint of the tenth wrap. Armed with rulers and calculators, students then calculated the corresponding values, engaging in discussions about their findings as a class. The key takeaway was the consistent closeness of the results to 3.1, providing a tangible understanding of the relationship, i.e., an understanding of the definition of π . Assessment focused on students' ability to generalise, as demonstrated by their recognition that the circumference divided by the diameter consistently yielded the same result, and encouraged conjecture as students suggested possible outcomes for this mathematical relationship.

PHYSICS

Grade 8 students delved into the intricate characteristics of sound. Through theoretical discussions and engaging demonstrations, they explored the fundamental properties that define sound waves. From understanding the relationship between wavelength and pitch to exploring the impact of amplitude on sound intensity, students gained valuable insights into the science behind auditory sensations. The interactive sessions provided valuable insights into the science of sound, igniting curiosity for further exploration.



CHEMISTRY

Our Grade 8 chemistry enthusiasts took a proactive step in their learning journey by delving into the intricacies of chemical reactions. During an interactive session, they were captivated by a live laboratory demonstration illustrating the process of heating magnesium metal and observing the



formation of a new product. To reinforce their understanding, students actively engaged in the use of word equations, a crucial tool in decoding the underlying chemical equations. This hands-on approach not only enhanced their comprehension of the reactions but also allowed them to refine their skills in crafting chemical formulae for various compounds.

BIOLOGY

In the Grade 8 topic on fertilisation and inheritance, students studied the mechanisms of how traits are passed from one generation to the next. They learn about fertilisation, the process by which male and female reproductive cells unite to form a new organism. The study extends to understanding inheritance, where genetic information is transmitted through genes from parents to offspring. Students explore the principles of genetics, the basics of heredity. This topic lays the foundation for comprehending the role of genetics in shaping biological diversity and the inheritance of traits in living organisms.



G.P.

Students of Grade 8 spent fifteen minutes of their GP class in the library, picking up a story each from the old newspapers. Once back in class they were divided into two groups (A and B) and were asked to write down only the headline of each story which according to them was an important one. The class was made to discuss the relevance of each story and choose the top three stories which, according to them, have the biggest impact on society or on a reader's mind and also see if any of the stories are interconnected or inter-linked. The entire exercise was an attempt to enhance their analytical skills and develop the newspaper-reading habit in them.



HISTORY

In our ongoing exploration of WW2's profound impact, learners are delving deeper into pivotal moments. The learners analyzed the pivotal moments that reshaped the war and the world. From the profound impact of Dunkirk on Britain and Germany, America's transition from isolationism post-Pearl Harbour, to the rupture of Germany and Russia's secret pact, the subsequent Battle of Stalingrad and shocking events of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As we unravel one of history's most poignant conflicts, the learners immerse themselves into the significant turns that shaped the war and our world.



GEOGRAPHY

The Grade 8 students studied India's physiographic divisions, which provided the students with a comprehensive overview of the diverse landscapes shaping the country. The students worked and researched individually on the topic allotted to them and presented their work in class. The primary goal was to deepen their understanding of the varied topography and its implications on the climate, vegetation, and human activities. This knowledge serves as a foundation for appreciating the richness and complexity of India's geography.



GRADE 9

ENGLISH

Grade 9 has been working towards sharpening their skills in language. Literary devices are important because they add depth, meaning, and beauty to writing. They help writers convey their ideas and emotions in a more impactful and memorable way. They were also introduced to the concept of Dialogue writing. Through an activity the students, in which the students were trying to save another from falling off a cliff, they learnt how to draft emotions of fear, anxiety, stress and eventually relief into writing to convey a message of safety to the audience.



MATH

In the spirited words of Alex Trebek, "This is Jeopardy!"

Grade 9 students recently engaged in a lively and



educational game of Jeopardy to solidify their understanding of Algebra - Equations and Expressions, as well as Rate and Proportion concepts. Working collaboratively in teams, students tackled a series of challenging Math questions, striving to provide accurate answers within a strict one-minute time limit. This competitive activity not only allowed students to enjoy themselves but also provided a platform to put their conceptual and mental Math skills to the test. The interactive and dynamic nature of the game ensured an engaging learning experience, fostering teamwork and enhancing problem-solving abilities.

PHYSICS

In this fortnight, learners delved into the intricacies of light through an exploration of various ray diagrams. They focused on calculating the refractive index from incident, reflected, or refracted angles, gaining insights into the properties of glass by applying Snell's Law. A highlight of the activity was the calculation of the critical angle and the discussion of light dispersion. Building on this foundation, the module expanded into the electromagnetic spectrum, introducing learners to different types of radio waves and their inclinations.



CHEMISTRY

In our latest Chemistry endeavours, our Grade 9 students have embarked on an enlightening exploration into the mechanism of electrolysis. This captivating journey involved an in-depth study of the electrolytic process and the array of products that emerge when dealing with molten ionic compounds and aqueous solutions. One particularly engaging highlight of their learning experience was a captivating laboratory demonstration centred around the electrolysis of copper (II) sulphate solution. Witnessing the magic unfold before their eyes, our students observed the deposition of copper metal at the cathode, adding a tangible and exciting element to their understanding of this transformative chemical process.



BIOLOGY

Our Grade 9 students delved into the intricacies of photosynthesis, exploring the myriad factors influencing its rate through a series of engaging experimental setups. This hands-on experience not only provided valuable insights but also honed their skills in conducting thorough risk assessments, fostering a deeper understanding of safety protocols in the lab. Continuing their scientific exploration, our students shifted focus to the vital mineral requirements of plants. Unravelling the secrets behind hydroponic systems, they discovered how this innovative approach has revolutionised agriculture, offering sustainable solutions and maximising crop yields.



BUSINESS STUDIES

The class explored the various aspects of marketing, dissecting the impact of trade on competition and they analysed government interventions, uncovered the digital revolution's influence on e-commerce and social media marketing. They talked about the evolution of competition through niche and mass marketing strategies.



G. P

Students of Grade 9 spent fifteen minutes of their GP class in the library, picking up a story each from the old newspapers. They were then divided into two groups and were asked to write down only the headline of a story which according to them was an important one. Students discussed the relevance of each story and choose the top three stories which, according to them, have the biggest impact on society or on a reader's mind and also see if any of the stories are interconnected or inter-linked. The entire exercise was an attempt to enhance their analytical skills which would be of primary importance for their Individual Report.



HISTORY

The students of History are on the cusp of a new war in the 20th century – The Cold War. Following the surrender of Nazi Germany in May 1945 nearing the close of World War II, the uneasy wartime alliance between the United States and the Soviet Union began. The Cold War was waged on political, economic, and propaganda fronts and had only limited recourse to weapons.



ECONOMICS

The class explored revenue curves, factors influencing production demand, and the strategic choice between labour and capital intensity. The class delved into revenue curves, production factors, and the nuanced choice between labour and capital intensity. The class was engaged in scrutinising data and proposing strategies.



Here we end this Newsletter. The next Newsletter will be for the period 29th January to 10th February.

Regards

The Gera School