

Dear everyone,

The heavy monsoon in Goa and the devastation in Wayanad, Kerala got me thinking about water. Of all the substances we know, water must be the softest. Water is life-giving, life-sustaining. Deny water, and mind and body lose vitality, and then quickly deteriorate. Life folds up, crumbles in on itself in a few days.

Water does not judge or seek to reform immediately. When it meets a thing unlike itself, it encircles it, embraces and holds it, fills all the cracks and crevices and wraps itself round the rough edges with nary a murmur of complaint – settling down, instead, to slowly smoothening those edges over time with soft, persistent, engulfing presence.

Water does not retaliate with a vengeance. Throw stones or boulders into a pond or lake; the waters tremble, then close over the rude intrusion and become placid again.

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But now and then billions of drops together seem possessed with an intensity of purpose or invite shock and awe with the force of collective action. Images of what water can do are illustrated mildly in the pictures here but water can be, chillingly, far more destructive.



**Velus village, Goa**



**Wayanad, Kerala**

I am not possessed of the bent to see sermons in stones but to watch visuals on television and social media was to but wonder at how wanton self-indulgence and callous neglect of the environment (leading to climate change) can cause even the patient element to be aggressive, the pacific to be destructive. (In Goa, we see hillsides hewn for commercial use and private gain without a public revealing of the plans of the use of common property land that we all share in a sense. I hope Wayanad helps people to awaken to the dangers of environmental neglect.)

Watching the newspaper reports was to also wonder at the 'strength in numbers'.

Combine these two observations [of (a) the danger of being self-indulgent and neglectful and (b) understanding the overwhelming strength in numbers when those numbers come together] and we can also understand why revolutions (India, France, Tunisia...) have taken place. It is not that we don't see the signs; we just ignore them for various reasons – till the time comes when we can no longer ignore them.

All of us must never take people or things for granted, must learn never to abuse a gift, never to make a blessing become a bane. May we look after what we have, be kind and caring to those who serve (and even who just 'stand and wait'). Humanity's survival may depend on it.

**Sincerely,**

**C P Joseph**  
**PRINCIPAL**

## EVENTS

### GRADES 2 & 3 SHOW AND TELL

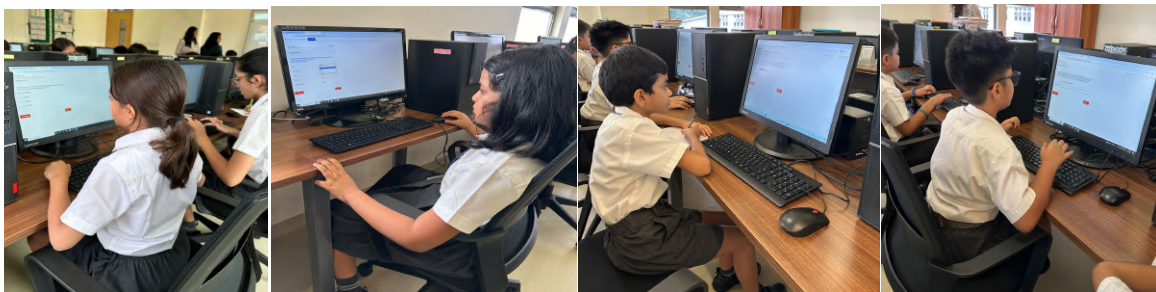
*"Children learn as they play. Most importantly, in play, children learn how to learn." - O. Fred Donaldson.*

Through the experience of a recently held Show and Tell activity, students learned valuable life skills in stage presence, speaking with poise, and maintaining proper body posture and eye contact during their presentations. The activity not only enhanced their public speaking abilities but also fostered a love for reading and sharing knowledge. The young readers of Grades 2 and 3 shared their favourite books and explained why they enjoyed reading them. This activity provided an excellent platform for students to speak in front of their classmates, significantly boosting their confidence.



### INDIA SPELLING BEE REGIONAL FINALE

We had twenty two students who had qualified for the India Spelling Bee Regional Finale which took place on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Our winners and qualifiers competed online with students from other schools across the Western Region of India.



### EARLY YEARS EVENT - BLOCKS DAY

Block play imparts numerous skills to children, including problem-solving, imagination, creativity, math concepts, and more. Early years students enthusiastically constructed diverse objects, like trains, buildings, sofa, TV set, ship etc. utilizing blocks. They also explained their creative effort to the teacher.





## **NURSERY COLOUR DAY**

The Nursery students celebrated Colour Day with immense enthusiasm. They came dressed in vibrant colours like orange, yellow, red, green, and blue, transforming the classroom into a lively and colourful space. The children participated in a variety of fun activities. One of the highlights was the Pom Pom Blow Cup Challenge, where they used straws to blow pom poms into cups of different colours, enhancing their breath control and precision. Another exciting game was the Colourful Target Tape Toss, where they aimed balls at colourful targets, focusing on improving their gross motor skills. In addition to these games, the students engaged in a creative palm printing activity. They mixed primary colours to create new shades and printed their colorful palms on paper, discovering the joy of colour blending and artistic expression. The day was filled with unlimited fun and learning, making it a memorable experience for our nursery students.



## **NEWS FROM THE SPECIALISTS**

### **MUSIC**

#### **NURSERY**

After re-opening of school from summer break and the settling-in period, the students of the Nursery re-visited activities done previously in music with familiar nursery rhymes and songs were sung along with actions and movements. Activities using percussion were revised. The focus was on 'Hear and repeat'. This reiterates instruction and how to follow them. In the melodic music sessions, the learners were given time on the keyboard to explore and discover the sound of different notes on the musical scale and over octaves.



#### **LKG**

As repetition makes a concept in learning stronger, the LKG learners had more percussion music sessions. It is not enough to introduce new concepts, especially in music; revision and repetition solidify these concepts. Through games, the students practised how to clap to the beats shown in the measure. They learnt how to listen and repeat simple



basic rhythms, practised playing soft and slow and loud and fast.

### UKG

Students of the UKG class revised the songs previously taught to them: *If I were a Butterfly* and *Friends*. With the help of clapping games, they were made to practise playing to the rhythm of the song. In percussion class, they were divided into groups and given specific instruments and made to play them to the rhythm of the song. With the help of activity based songs, they revised traffic rules and safety. They also got a good understanding on the different tempos in music and singing.

### GRADE 1

Grade 1 worked on their coordination in Music in the past few classes. It is never easy doing activities involving the body, voice in movement and sound simultaneously. Exercises were conducted using short phrases to vocalise while using a hand percussion instrument to accompany the singing. Popular activity based songs were played to inculcate instructions. 'The Floor Is Lava' and 'The Freeze' dance songs helped the students to follow instructions.



### GRADE 2

Students of Grade 2 enjoyed classes in self-expression using instruments and voice. They were given the opportunity to either sing a song or play a percussion instrument. Their leadership skills were also focused. Students were asked to lead their group in chanting and vocalizing short phrases or in playing a short rhythmic phrase and asking their group to repeat it.



### GRADE 3

Grade 3 students are forging ahead in their rhythmic and melodic classes. In rhythm, they now read and play eighth and sixteenth note phrases. They can play these individually and also in a group. In the melodic music class, the students have been given short phrases and the opportunity to learn, repeat and play them in groups.



### GRADES 4 & 5



Students of Grade 4 and 5 have now learned various aspects of Indian music, with a key focus on Swaras and the Hindustani scale. Over the last two weeks, students have been involved in Annual Day practices and the students chosen for the choir have been enthusiastically learning the songs for the musical “Press Start”!



## DANCE

### NURSERY

Students of the Nursery Class have been familiarizing themselves with the warm-up routine which many have gotten quite good at. We have been concentrating on how confidently they explore movement. They are learning how to follow simple dance cues in a bid to prepare the students for their first appearance on stage in the near future. They will be required to remember a set choreography and this will take a lot of practice. The children are excited and eager to learn and this makes teaching them a bit easier.



### LKG

In our LKG dance classes, children are learning how to move different parts of their body simultaneously. We learn footwork first with arm movement separately and later combine the two sets together to perform a dance move/routine. We have been focused on gaining better control over body movements. Presently the students have begun preparation for their Annual Concert.



### UKG

Students of UKG had a dance class exploring Balance and control of body



movements before we began practices for Annual day.

### GRADE 1

In Grade 1, students learnt the latter half of the choreography in the dance routine “Learning to Fly” but later shifted their attention to Annual Day practices.



### GRADES 2 & 3

Some of the students of Grade 2 and 3 have begun practices for a dance routine that will be showcased in this year's Annual Day programme. The dance performance is a big challenge for the young dancers but we are aiming for success through relentless practice and determination.



### GRADES 4 & 5



The students of Grade 4 and 5 completed their semi-classical dance routine which was being taught to them and they have now moved on to learning several dance routines which will be performed for Independence Day and a few more in the performances for Annual Day as preparations for both events are underway simultaneously.

### DRAMA

#### NURSERY

The children in Nursery are enthusiastically participating in drama activities. We are learning the concept of the ‘Spatial Concept’ through drama activities such as ‘I am a \_\_\_’ with actions and ‘Drama train’.

#### LKG

In our LKG drama sessions, we are learning one-liners and dialogue. The children are



learning and trying out different vocal tones, body movement and emotions to enhance the character.

### UKG

UKG is learning one-liners and dialogue. We've been focusing on practising vocal tones, emotions, Body movement and facial expressions to enhance the students' expressive skills.



### GRADES 1, 2 & 3

The students participating in the Annual Day play are currently learning their lines and are delivering them with enthusiasm. The emphasis has been on using different vocal tones to convey emotions, understanding 'Spatial Concept', using body movements and facial expressions to add depth to their performance.



### GRADES 4 & 5

Annual Day practices have started for the musical play Press Start. Rehearsals play a crucial role in drama productions, offering several benefits to both individual performers and the overall production. Here are three of the benefits:

1. **Skill Development:** Rehearsals provide actors with opportunities to hone their craft. They can practice character development, improve their delivery of lines, work on gestures and expressions, and refine their overall performance skills. Those with major roles have started to memorize their dialogues.

2. **Understanding the Script:** Through rehearsals, actors gain a deeper understanding of the script. Queries about costume and properties keep cropping up but in every session we



explore the nuances of their characters and the relationships between characters, ensuring a more authentic portrayal during the actual performance.

**3. Teamwork and Collaboration:** Drama rehearsals foster teamwork and collaboration among actors, directors, and crew members. Presently, the singers and dancers are learning their respective parts separately. As we near the date of performance, they will work together towards our common goal, thus developing a cohesive and unified performance. Without giving much away, here are glimpses from some of the practice sessions.



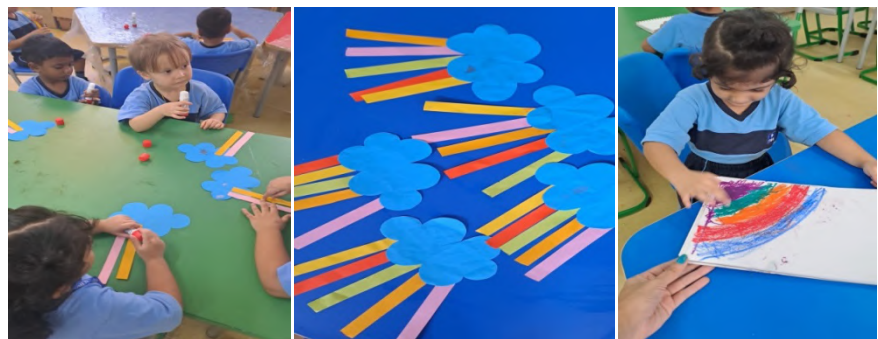
## ART

### NURSERY

We had fantastic weeks with Nursery students, starting with craft activity, 'Happy rain'. It's wonderful to see them engaging with various skills like using glue sticks, identifying colours. These activities help develop fine motor skills, colour recognition, and attention to detail. For the glue stick activity, it's great that they learned how to use the glue efficiently. This skill

is essential for many future art and craft projects. Picking the right colour and sticking it on the cloud shape not only boosts their colour recognition but also enhances their understanding of spatial

arrangement. The continuous colouring in Activity 2 where they focus on one colour at a time, is excellent for developing concentration and precision. It also helps in understanding the concept of space and the importance of thoroughness in completing tasks. Overall, these activities are perfect for nurturing creativity and cognitive skills in young children.



### LKG

In LKG, students learnt a fun and educational project to create grapes using various sizes of violet-coloured cut-out pieces. They learned to arrange these pieces meticulously to form a grape cluster, practising precision with glue to ensure that each piece was stuck in the right place.



Additionally, they folded green paper to craft leaves, which were then glued next to the grapes, adding a finishing touch to their artwork. By following step-by-step instructions, the children developed their fine motor skills and spatial awareness while gaining confidence in their ability to complete a task with care. The result was a vibrant display of creativity and craftsmanship, with each student proudly showcasing their beautifully arranged grape clusters and leaves, reflecting their understanding and enthusiasm for the project.

## UKG

In UKG, students have made an impressive journey in learning about the artist's style, particularly focusing on creating giant flowers using oil pastels. They explored contrasting colours to enhance their artwork, learning to differentiate between various hues effectively. The new space challenge encouraged them to think creatively about composition and scale. Overall, their dedication and enthusiasm have led to remarkable results, making the class a joyful and rewarding experience for everyone involved. UKG has also explored learning basic human action stick figures, using oil pastels and pencils.



## GRADE 1

Grade 1 students learned to create symmetrical designs by drawing on both sides of a leaf shape. They used pencils, black pens, and thin markers to develop simple, balanced patterns that mirrored each other on either side of the central line. This activity, known as "leaf doodle art," helped them understand the concept of symmetry and fine-tune their pattern-making





skills. By focusing on creating harmonious, mirrored designs, the students enhanced their ability to visualize and execute balanced compositions while having fun with their art. They have learnt making a giant flower using oil



pastels inspired by an artist Georgia O'Keeffe, in a very simplified manner. They have learned blending of colours and using contrasting colour schemes. Students also enthusiastically learned the art of composing landscapes, focusing on the arrangement of land and sky with guidance on blending colours from previous lessons. This exploration has been systematic, as they also delved into scaling, distinguishing between big and small elements such as houses, trees and bushes within their landscapes.

## GRADE 2

Grade 2 learners recently took a delightful dive into the world of art by learning about Pablo Picasso and his unique cubist style! Picasso's way of painting, where he used shapes like cubes, triangles and rectangles to show different perspectives all at once, inspired our young artists to create a cubist portrait. The students enjoyed experimenting with shapes and colours it shows in their imaginative and vibrant artwork.



## GRADE 3

Grade 3 learners recently enjoyed a hands-on art project, crafting their very own 3D cactus out of paper! This activity helped students learn about shapes and dimensions as they folded, cut and assembled their paper to create vibrant and three-dimensional cactus. The students used their creativity to add colourful details and unique designs, bringing their paper cactus to life.



## GRADE 4



Grade 4 learners explored the technique of one-point perspective in landscape painting. By focusing on a single vanishing point, students learned how to create the illusion of depth and distance in their artwork. This technique allowed them to transform their flat drawings into dynamic landscapes with a sense of realism.



## GRADE 5

Grade Five learners have been learning about elements of art in detail and now they have immersed themselves in Vincent Van Gogh's artistic style, dedicating significant effort to learning and analysing his techniques. They've meticulously recreated his signature brushstrokes, vibrant colour blends and tonal variations capturing the essence of his work. By focusing on detailed shading and composing landscape, they've practised using different brush strokes to achieve dynamic and expressive results. This hands-on experience with Van Gogh's methods has allowed them to gain a deep appreciation for his artistry and the impact of each carefully applied stroke. Students used poster colours and water colours as a medium and had a creative time throughout.



## CIRCLE TIME / LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

### GRADE 1

This fortnight during Circle Time, our Grade 1 students focused on teamwork. In the first week, they engaged in a creative storytelling activity using visual cards. Each student received a picture card, and together they crafted a unique story, showcasing remarkable creativity and cooperation. The following week, the students participated in a block-

building game, working in groups to construct the tallest tower. This activity emphasized collaboration and respect for personal space. Afterward,



each group shared their experiences and reflected on their teamwork. The students displayed excellent teamwork, successfully avoiding conflicts and respecting each other's contributions. We are proud of their progress and cooperative spirit.

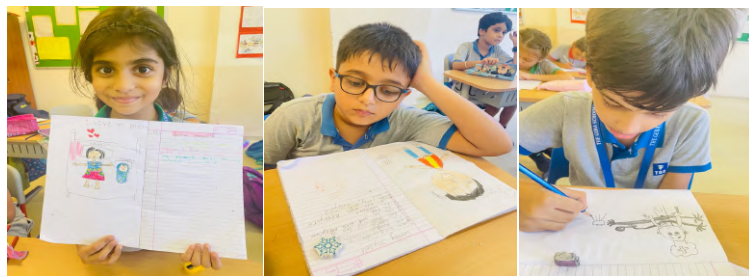
## GRADE 2

This fortnight, our Grade 2 students explored the theme of teamwork during Circle Time. They began with a collaborative storytelling activity using visual cards, each depicting a different scene or object. The students did an excellent job, showcasing their creativity and teamwork as they seamlessly integrated each picture card into the narrative. Additionally, the students were asked to write about their understanding of teamwork in their books. They demonstrated a solid grasp of the concept and reflected well on the importance of working together.



## GRADE 3

During Circle Time, our Grade 3 students focused on teamwork. In the first session, they created a story using visual cards, demonstrating creativity and collaboration. Finally, they made the longest paper link using newspapers, impressing us with



their innovative approaches and teamwork. The students' performance reflected a strong understanding of collaboration and respect for each other's ideas.

### **Leadership Curriculum:**

This fortnight, the learners of Grade 3 started on a new path, a journey that will hopefully lead them to self-love and self-acceptance. They were asked to draw pictures of themselves doing things they loved to do and then write down ten things they loved about themselves. In an age of social media and a focus on the self, it was quite shocking to see how reluctant these young learners were to write things





they liked about themselves. As they got into the task, however, it got easier.

#### GRADE 4

The learners of Grade 4 will not be having Circle Time in their timetables till Annual Day and so, every alternate leadership curriculum class will be used for Circle Time. This fortnight, we discussed personal space from a reflective standpoint. We went

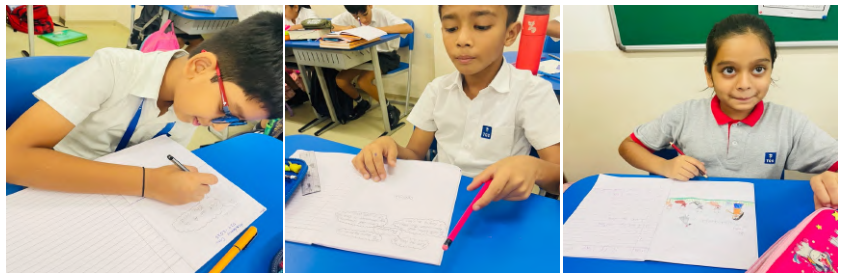


beyond physical space to discuss mental and emotional space too.

During the leadership class held, learners were introduced to the topic of self-love and self-acceptance. Earlier, introducing these topics in older classes garnered more resistance but now it seems that younger learners aren't too far behind in their apprehension to speak out about themselves and the parts of themselves that make them special. Slowly, the goal is to eradicate that apprehension and help learners to see themselves in a more positive light.

#### GRADE 5

The learners of Grade 5 will have to do with alternate Circle Time and alternate leadership curriculum classes until the Annual Day. Given the time constraints, there was still a lot done and achieved this fortnight. We

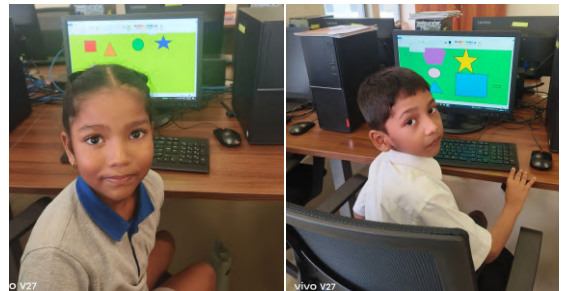


discussed personal space during Circle Time as this is a topic that all learners need to be reminded of. There are times when it is difficult to understand the complexities of personal space and only with discussion and brain sharing can all learners be on the same page. During leadership curriculum classes, our learners were introduced to the concept of self-love. They were asked to draw a picture of themselves doing something they loved and then write down ten things they loved about themselves. The second task seemed to be met with some resistance.

#### ICT

#### GRADE 1

Our Grade 1 learners were thrilled to dive into a simple programme that allows users to create basic graphic art on a computer. Can you guess which one? That's right—Microsoft Paint, also known as Paint or MS Paint! The students learned how to find the tool on the computer and used the shape and fill features to draw and colour various shapes on the MS Paint canvas. It was a fun and creative experience for everyone!





## GRADE 2

Our Grade 2 learners have been exploring the world of digital devices. They learned to identify various digital devices and understand the concepts of input, processing and output.

They classified a wide range of devices into input and output categories. Additionally, they discussed the differences between desktop and laptop computers, sharing their preferences for each type. It was an informative and engaging session for all!



## GRADE 3

Our Grade 3 learners were introduced to the concept of the World Wide Web. They learned to

define various technical terms related to the web, such as browser, search engine, web pages, websites and weblinks. They also practised carrying out basic searches using a web browser and search engine. Additionally, they learned to use keywords effectively to find accurate answers to given questions. It was an exciting journey into the digital world!



## GRADE 4

Our Grade 4 learners explored the importance of network security and the concept of network log-in to keep systems safe. They learned how to set up a strong password

using the passphrase method and the importance of keeping passwords secure. Additionally, they learnt to identify and explain various networking devices such as servers, switches, hubs, and routers, and how these devices work together to maintain a secure and efficient network.



## GRADE 5

Our Grade 5 learners explored the criteria used by search engines to rank the most relevant links at the top of search results. They also learned about key



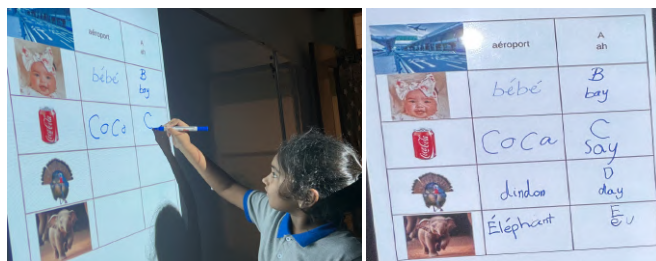
points to consider when selecting information from the World Wide Web to ensure its accuracy and reliability. Additionally, they discussed the concepts of copyrights and plagiarism, and the importance of giving proper credit when using someone else's work.

## PRIMARY UPDATES

### FRENCH

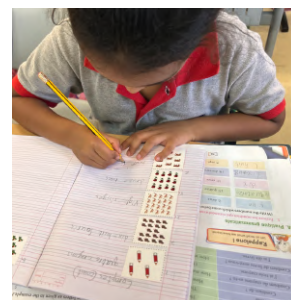
#### GRADE 1

This fortnight, Grade 1 French learners were assessed on alphabet vocabulary and sounds. They also recapitulated number names from 0 to 10 in French. In preparation for Annual Day, they are learning the French song "Ah les crocodiles," which is enhancing their pronunciation skills and building a strong foundation in the language. They are now applying their knowledge by combining letters and numbers, such as reading car numbers, partial addresses, pin codes, and phone numbers. They enjoyed games like creating a "me-code," using the first three letters of their names and their birth dates. Overall, integrating numbers and letters with new vocabulary in French has been fun and educational for them.



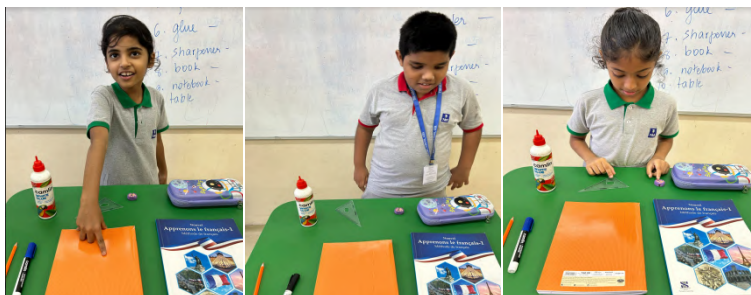
#### GRADE 2

During this fortnight, Grade 2 French learners were assessed on using adjectives with the verb "être" (to be). They revisited primary and secondary colour names in French, making the lessons fun and engaging. Using colours with various vegetables, we constructed sentences like "Une banane jaune" (A yellow banana). This approach helped solidify their colour vocabulary and expand their knowledge of fruits. Additionally, the students improved their understanding of gender agreement, learning to use "une" with feminine nouns and "un" with masculine nouns. This period has been productive, with students showing significant progress in their French language skills.



#### GRADE 3

In Grade 3, students have learned vocabulary related to school materials and stationery items, practicing spelling and identification. They can now describe these items using basic adjectives like colour and quantity. To enhance their writing skills, students are encouraged to write simple sentences with the verb "être," such as "Ma trousse est rouge" (My pencil case is red) and "Mon crayon est bleu" (My pencil is blue).





To reinforce these skills, students participated in activities like Descriptive Drawing, where they drew their desk or stationery items and wrote sentences about their drawings and Adjective Match-Up, where they matched images of stationery with adjectives and wrote sentences. These activities made learning interactive and enjoyable while strengthening vocabulary and grammar.

## GRADE 4

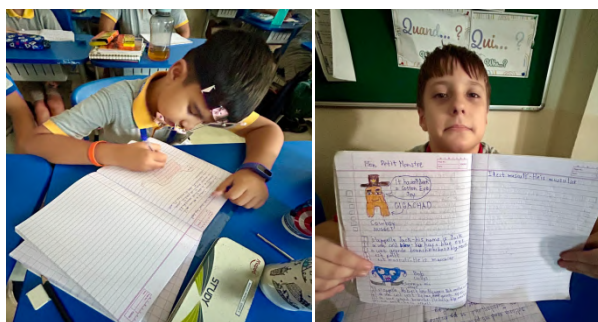
In Grade 4, students have made significant progress in expanding their vocabulary and describing their families. They have learned paragraph writing in French and have created engaging sentences using adjectives for size (taille), weight (poids), colour (couleur), age (âge) and personality (personnalité). Additionally, they have learnt and practised the conjugation of regular -er verbs and can now craft short and meaningful sentences.



To enrich their learning, students can engage in activities such as the Family Description Project, where they write a detailed paragraph about family members using adjectives and '-er' verbs. Another activity, the Verb Conjugation Challenge, involves individual practice of conjugating various -er verbs. These activities make learning interactive and enjoyable while reinforcing their skills.

## GRADE 5

Grade 5 students have made remarkable progress in describing individuals based on physical attributes and personality traits. They have delved into vocabulary related to personal characteristics, enriching their linguistic skills. Students have also learned paragraph writing in French, crafting engaging sentences with adjectives for size (taille), weight (poids), colour (couleur), age (âge) and personality (personnalité). They have learnt the conjugation of regular -er verbs, allowing them to create short and meaningful sentences. In their writing exercises, students have described family members, pets and imaginary creatures they designed. This interactive approach has deepened their grasp of French grammar and has laid a solid foundation for more advanced language studies.



## HINDI

### GRADE 1

In Grade 1, students were introduced to Swars (vowels) using engaging methods. They watched educational videos that demonstrated the formation and pronunciation of each swar, making the learning process interactive. The videos also featured vocabulary words associated with each swar, such as 'अमर' (immortal) and 'अलमारी' (cupboard) for 'अ' (a). Students practised reciting these words and created their own examples, like 'अलग'

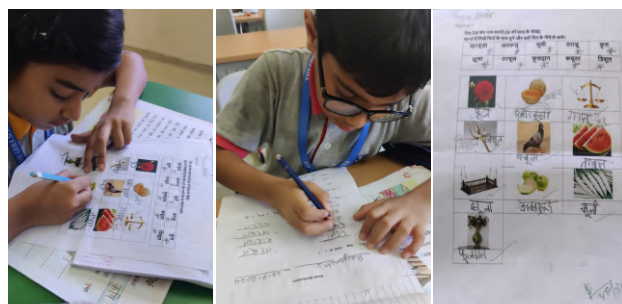


(different) and 'अगला' (next). The class also included a story session with "चतुर - बन्दर चित्रकथा" (Clever Monkey Story) and an activity where learners sang and drew pictures, writing names as part of the "Sing and Draw" exercise.



## GRADE 2

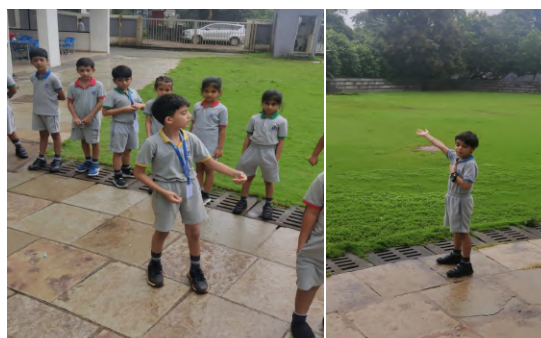
In Grade 2, students explored the importance of Matras (vowel markers) through an engaging activity. The teacher focused on the 'ऊ' (oo) Matra, demonstrating its impact by reciting a lesson both with and without this Matra. Initially, the teacher presented words with the 'ऊ' Matra, emphasizing correct



pronunciation and its effect on word meanings. The lesson was then recited without the 'ऊ' Matra to show how its absence can impact the clarity and beauty of the language. Students participated in activities where they completed and coloured drawings, identified and named associated words and wrote sentences based on the pictures. They also engaged in a Q&A session, both verbally and in writing.

## GRADE 3

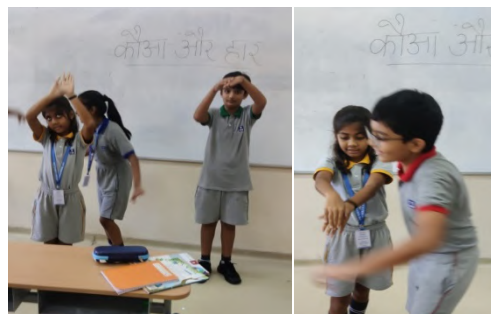
In Grade 3, the students were engaged in a dynamic activity designed to teach them the art of summarizing a chapter using a picture story (पूछना माली से). This hands-on approach involved several key steps to enhance their learning experience. The students began by examining an illustrated narrative that visually represented the chapter's events and themes. They discussed the sequence of events and key elements depicted in each picture, deepening their understanding of the story. In addition, they practised sentence formation with vocabulary words and explored rhyming words. They also studied the map of India, learning about different states. To reinforce their understanding of colours, they created a rainbow as part of a activity on VIBGYOR.



## GRADE 4

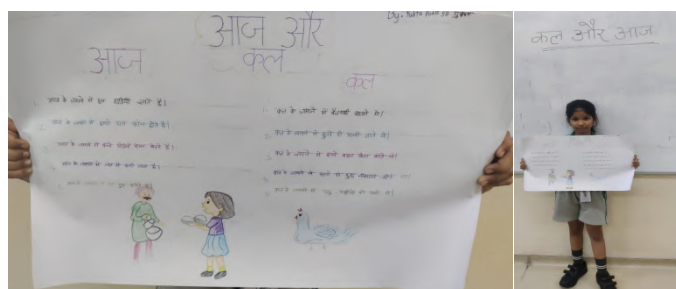
In Grade 4, students studied the poem "कौआ और हार" (The Crow and the Necklace) as part of their language arts curriculum. After analysing the poem's moral lesson through the

story of a crow and a necklace, students presented their insights to the class. Each student explained the poem's key themes and morals, discussing how the crow's actions reflect broader life lessons and sharing their personal interpretations. Additionally, students explored synonyms through a video presentation and used them in sentence formation. They also practiced identifying and underlining verbs in sentences with a worksheet activity and solved riddles as part of the class exercises.



## GRADE 5

In Grade 5, students were engaged in an interactive activity designed to compare life in the past with the present, helping them understand historical and contemporary lifestyles through creative methods. They also worked on unseen passages and completed lines of a poem. Additionally, they explored synonyms



(पर्यावाची शब्द) through a quiz and practiced singular and plural forms (एकवचन / बहुवचन) using worksheets. To further their understanding of grammar, students identified and underlined nouns and verbs (संज्ञा, क्रिया) in given sentences.

## P.E.

### NURSERY

An obstacle course is a series of challenging physical obstacles in an individual. During P.E. class, learners were actively engaged in obstacle course activities such as running, jumping, crawling and balancing elements with the aim of testing speed, endurance and agility.





## LKG

An obstacle course, indoors or out, is a great way for learners to practice these gross motor milestones. Obstacle courses climbing on the chairs also support motor planning, sequencing, memory, following directions and self-regulation.



## UKG

Gross motor skills encourage a range of physical movements, including balance and coordination. During P.E class activities like ball handling with different variations and shuttle running in which challenging interval training workout will improve the learner's speed and build endurance.



## GRADE 1

Practising yoga asanas or poses like Sun Salutation (Surya Namaskar), camel pose, boat pose etc. helps control an individual's mind, body and soul. It brings together physical and mental disciplines to achieve a peaceful body and mind. It also helps manage stress and anxiety and keeps learners relaxed. During P.E. class, learners were actively engaged in team building activities.



## GRADE 2



Team games for students are an excellent way to promote physical activity, social interaction and essential life skills like teamwork, communication and sportsmanship. In P.E., the focus was to engage learners in various team games, encouraging them to work together towards common goals, building camaraderie and friendship.

### GRADE 3

Working together as a team breeds a healthy competitive edge that can do well for the team and each individual within it. Teamwork allows learners to work together to achieve a common goal. Activities like tunnel relay with different variations and yoga bring the body and mind together. Butterfly pose, boat pose and camel pose were taught during the class.



### GRADE 4



Rock, paper, scissors is a fun and easy hand game that anyone can learn and enjoy. It's a great way to improve critical thinking and communication skills to help make minor decisions. During P.E. class, learners were actively engaged in shuttle running as a warm up activity and also noughts and crosses team building activity.

### GRADE 5

During P.E. class activities including skill-building, dice games which require strategic thinking and problem-solving skills helped learners develop these important cognitive abilities.





## LIBRARY NURSERY

### Fish For Library

**Book:** Students need a little help selecting a book. This activity is designed to teach students to identify and match familiar words and pictures. It is an essential skill when recognizing letters, numbers and shapes.



## LKG

**Fish for Library Book:** The purpose of this exercise is to teach students how to recognize and pair up well-known words and images. Acquiring this ability is crucial for learning to identify letters, numbers, and shapes. Consideration was given to the students' level and genre.



## UKG

**Books and music:** Adding books to the game makes it more enjoyable. While the music was playing, the students were instructed to walk around the table, and when it stopped, they were to select a book. They were then issued the books.



## GRADE 1A & 1B

**Reading with a theme:** A specific theme is selected. The books must be read by the students in accordance with the theme. Reading fiction stories was the theme. The distinction between fiction and non-fiction stories was first explained to the students.



## GRADE 2

**Paired reading:** By reading aloud to one another, students can develop their fluency using this technique. Children who read at the same level can be paired to re-read a story or more fluent readers can be paired with less fluent readers.



## GRADE 3A & 3B

**Book Sampling:** Each table had a variety of books, including non-fiction and fiction. Each learner was to read the book in front of them for three minutes, or until the timer went off. After three minutes, students were instructed to leave the book in place and rotate to a new seat. After 20-25 minutes of playing the book sampling game, they were given the opportunity to select one of the books they sampled to finish reading or check out. This aided the children in selecting books from various genres.





## GRADE 5A & 5B

**Reading in Pairs:** This exercise facilitates self-awareness among students while enhancing fluency, reading rate and word attack abilities. Additionally, partner reading encourages students to gradually reduce their reliance on the teacher, moving toward independent reading without guidance.



## NEWS FROM THE EARLY YEARS SECTION

### NURSERY

#### LITERACY

In our Nursery classes, the little learners were introduced to the letters 'p' and 'n' through stories and participated in engaging activities to reinforce their learning. To make learning the letter 'p' exciting, the children engaged in a delightful paper crumpling activity. They crafted popcorn kernels, which helped them connect the word 'popcorn' with the letter 'p' sound. Furthermore, the little ones embarked on a treasure hunt around the classroom, seeking out objects that begin with the letter 'p'. This interactive exercise not only boosted their letter recognition skills but also broadened their vocabulary. For the letter 'n', the children concentrated on identifying and practicing the letter's sound. They participated in activities that emphasized the formation of the letter 'n' and engaged in various hands-on exercises to reinforce their understanding. They also did magic painting to create a night scene, making the learning process fun and engaging.



#### NUMERACY

The nursery class is making great strides in their numeracy journey. Recently, the students were introduced to the number 4. They engaged in various activities to reinforce their understanding and recognition of this number. The children



practiced quantifying the number 4 using beads and playdough, which helped them develop their counting and fine motor skills. Additionally, they revisited the number 2 by performing ear bud dabbing on a number 2 template, further solidifying their familiarity with this numeral. Through these hands-on and interactive exercises, our young learners are building a strong foundation in numeracy.

### UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Our nursery students continued their exciting journey of exploring their senses. They delved into the sense of touch by identifying various textures and temperatures. Using objects like a hair dryer, an ice pack, sandpaper, foam sheet, they distinguished between hot and cold, hard and soft, and rough and smooth. In addition to their tactile exploration, the children also engaged their sense of taste. They sampled different flavours, including lemon, coffee, sugar, and salt. This tasting activity sparked wonderful anecdotes as the students described the taste of their snack items during snack break, enriching their sensory vocabulary.



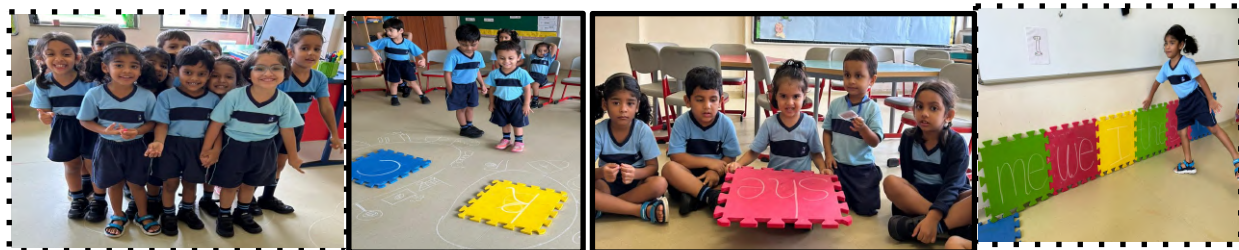
Beyond sensory activities, the young learners were introduced to the concepts of nuclear and joint families. They creatively constructed a family wall in the classroom, sharing stories and details about their own families. This activity not only helped them understand family structures but also fostered a sense of community and belonging among the students.



### LKG

#### LITERACY

Students have mastered tricky words I, the, he, she, me, we and have been introduced to the letters 'c' and 'k', which share the same sound. This helps them enhance their reading skills and build a strong foundation for future literacy.





## NUMERACY

The LKG students explored numbers 1 to 10 and were introduced to the magic of zero. They creatively wrote the numbers in the air, on their slates, and in their workbooks.



To top it off, they practised forming numbers using objects on the green board, making Math come alive! They dived into the world of numbers, mastering not just counting but also quantifying them. The students learned to identify the numbers that come before, after, and in between, as well as fill in the missing numbers, turning Math into an exciting puzzle!

## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD



The LKG students embarked on a fascinating journey through the lifecycle of a plant. Using flashcards, the teacher introduced them to the stages of growth, showcasing a real plant with its seed, roots, stem, leaves, flowers, and fruits. The students eagerly captured these stages in their drawing books, producing impressive work. But the learning didn't stop there! The teacher conducted an experiment, planting seeds in two paper cups: one with dry soil tucked away in a box, and the other with moist soil placed on a sunlit windowsill. The students were tasked with watering the plants, observing their growth, and comparing the two. The excitement grew as they watched and decided which plant was thriving!

## UKG LITERACY

The UKG students reviewed letter sounds and practised blending and reading three-letter words. They tried their hand on searching the words on a crossword. They were introduced to the two-letter



digraph 'ee', 'or', 'oo', 'ng' and 'sh' and engaged in activities to identify and associate these sounds with spoken words. Additionally, they are learning to blend and read four-to-five letter words containing the sounds learnt and practising writing them within four lines. They listened to the story "Mess Monsters" which taught them about taking care of their belongings and keeping their surroundings clean. They also listened to the story "The Three little Pigs" and enacted it with enthusiasm.

## NUMERACY

Our young learners were immersed in a world of numbers and shapes last month! We reinforced their number sense by reviewing ordinal numbers, odd and even numbers, and comparing numbers. To make learning enjoyable, we introduced directional words through engaging maze activities where children helped blindfolded friends navigate. We also took initial steps into addition, using fingers, ten frames, and manipulatives to build a strong foundation for future math skills.



## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

During our unit on the human body, the students explored and discovered fascinating facts about internal organs such as the heart, lungs, kidneys, stomach, intestines, and bladder. This was achieved through engaging games, quizzes, and hands-on activities. They also learned about the similarities and differences among humans, as well as the essentials for sustaining life. As a follow-up activity, the students illustrated what they would need to stay alive in space, showcasing their creativity and unique ideas.



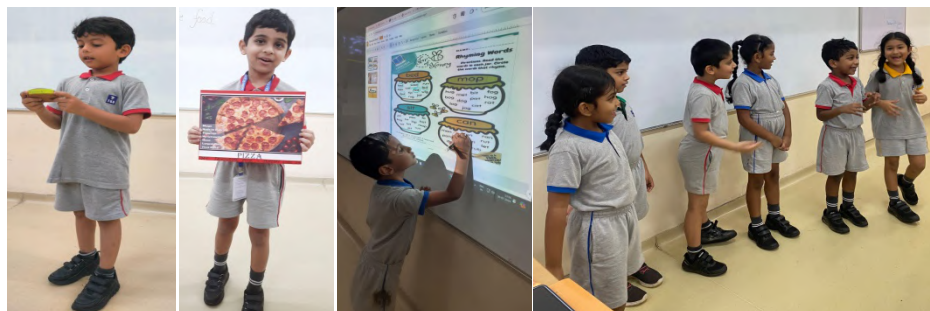
## PRIMARY UPDATES

### NEWS FROM EACH GRADE

#### GRADE 1

##### ENGLISH

When discussing favourite food, our Grade 1 students enthusiastically shared their preferred dishes, supported by pictures

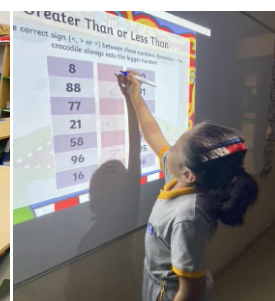
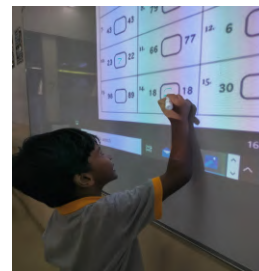




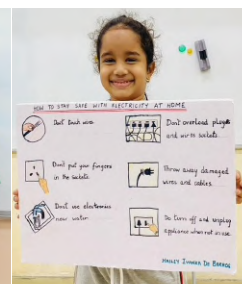
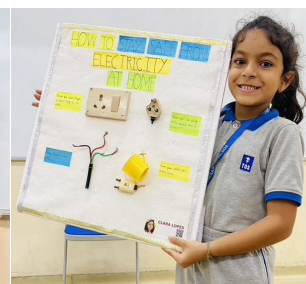
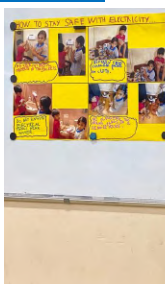
that illustrated what the dish was and little anecdotes of why they enjoyed it so much. From discussing mouth-watering meals, we dived into the world of Poetry—a whole different feast for the imagination! The students delved into the features of poems, discovered the magical power of rhyming words and grooved to the rhythm and beat of verses and rhymes. They even explored the art of chants, which surprisingly proved to be as fun as a pizza party! Through these poetic adventures, they tapped into their imaginations and found a new enchanting way to view English.

## MATH

Our young learners took an exciting journey through the world of Numbers to 100. The adventure began with them learning to identify and name each number, laying the groundwork for more complex numerical concepts. They then took on the challenge of arranging numbers in both ascending and descending order. Finally, our budding mathematicians learned how to compare numbers using the greater than ( $>$ ), less than ( $<$ ), and equal to ( $=$ ) signs.



## SCIENCE



With the release of their new chapter on "Electricity", our bright-eyed Grade 1 learners set-off on an exciting adventure. They discussed the importance of electricity in our daily lives, including how it powers devices and lights up houses. The highlight? Creating and presenting posters on how to stay safe with electricity! This hands-on experience not only ignited their curiosity but also honed their presentation skills. Early exposure to electricity helps children develop problem-solving and safety awareness, two essential life skills for the future. Lastly, the learners were exposed to the workings of a circuit and how a circuit is created. Seeing their joy and development serves as a potent reminder of the potential that each child possesses.

## GRADE 2

### ENGLISH

In English, our grade 2 Students explored non-fiction texts, learned the difference between fiction and non-fiction, studied instructional texts, and mastered dictionary skills with alphabetical order. These activities significantly boosted their vocabulary, communication, analytical thinking, and teamwork as they collaborated on various tasks. Understanding the purpose of a text is paramount for effective comprehension and communication. As Dr Seuss said, "The more that you read, the more things you will know."



### MATH

During the past fortnight, our Grade 2 students delved into the fascinating world of shapes, exploring both 2D and 3D forms, and discovering the wonders of symmetry. They learned



to identify, describe, and create various shapes, which greatly enhanced their spatial awareness and analytical thinking skills. This journey concluded with the introduction of addition, setting the stage for our upcoming lessons. Learning about shapes and symmetry not only sharpened the students' problem-solving abilities but also fostered teamwork as they collaborated on group activities and projects. Understanding these fundamental concepts is crucial as it builds a solid foundation for more complex mathematical concepts and promotes essential life skills.

### SCIENCE

The learners of Grade 2 have been exploring the world of Forces and Magnets. We've covered topics such as Push and Pull, Gravity and Friction.

Force is the invisible hand that shapes the way objects move. It can be a gentle push or a strong pull, and it's what makes things speed up, slow down, or change direction. Our students have been actively engaged in hands-on experiments, applying force to various



objects to witness the fascinating results. Gravity, the force that keeps our feet firmly on the ground, is a universal phenomenon. Students have been dropping objects of

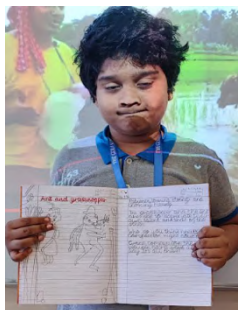


different masses to explore the consistent pull of gravity. From bouncing balls to falling leaves, they've observed the influence of this force in everyday life. Friction is like a secret superhero – it's the force that helps us stop, start, and even slows things down. Our second graders have been on a mission to uncover the mysteries of friction. They've rolled objects on different surfaces, and felt the effects of this invisible force.

## GRADE 3

### ENGLISH

We learned how important punctuation is in writing! We practiced using speech marks, which help show when someone is talking in our stories. Remembering the rules for these marks has made it easier for everyone to use them correctly in their writing.



We also looked at different book blurbs, which are short summaries on the back of books that tell us what the story is about. After reading some blurbs, we created our own for the book *Harry's Mad*. We discussed synonyms for 'funny' and tried to find other words that mean the same thing, like 'hilarious' or 'amusing'. In our reading of *Harry's Mad*, we learned about words like 'inherit', 'legacy', and 'will'. We talked about what it would be like to inherit something, such as a bird or money, and shared our thoughts on which we would prefer and why.

### MATH

From our earliest days, we all learned the fundamental sum of  $1 + 1$ . While technology has advanced over the years, the basics of



math remain unchanged. What has evolved is the creative ways in which we teach, learn, and present these concepts. This time, our students have been learning to add and subtract three and four-digit numbers using various strategies. These include the base ten method, the split method, the number line method, the compensation method, and our evergreen algorithm method. These approaches have significantly helped in enhancing their mental math abilities.

## **SCIENCE**

This fortnight our students of Grade 3 have been deeply engaged in learning about energy transfer and the differences between renewable and non-renewable resources through various experiments conducted in class. They explored various renewable energy sources and their benefits, which are essential for their understanding of future energy challenges. This knowledge helped to prepare the younger generation to tackle complex energy issues in the future and increased their awareness of renewable energy. Secondly, it aided in developing a solid conceptual understanding of energy systems, thereby enhancing their overall learning outcomes. Lastly, it helped in fostering a sense of respect for the environment and contributed to the transition towards sustainable development. We are proud of our students' progress and their growing awareness of these critical topics.



## **G.P.**



Grade 3 learners engaged in activities focused on safety and understanding personal space. Through class discussions, reflective exercises, the "My Bubble" exercise, they explored what invades personal space and how to handle it. They also reflected on different levels of trust through a written exercise "My Circle of Trust", discussing behaviours with strangers versus friends and family. Learners analysed safety scenarios, brainstormed solutions, and



used props to enact social situations, demonstrating critical thinking and collaboration. The activities were successful in enhancing their understanding of personal space and safety.

## GRADE 4

### ENGLISH

Our Grade 4 students have been on an incredible journey of imagination and reflection recently! They had the awesome



opportunity to watch two captivating short films and dive deep into the stories they told. After each film, our young scholars engaged in spirited discussions about the morals and lessons they discovered. From tales of bravery to stories of kindness, they explored the richness of each narrative.

What came next was truly inspiring! Armed with their newfound insights, our Grade 4 students put their creativity into action by writing their own short essays based on the morals they found in these films. It was amazing to see how they wove their thoughts and feelings into their writing, bringing the lessons of the films to life through their own words. The creativity and enthusiasm our students displayed were nothing short of impressive. Each essay was a unique reflection of their understanding and appreciation of the stories they had watched. We're incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication to exploring storytelling in such a thoughtful way.

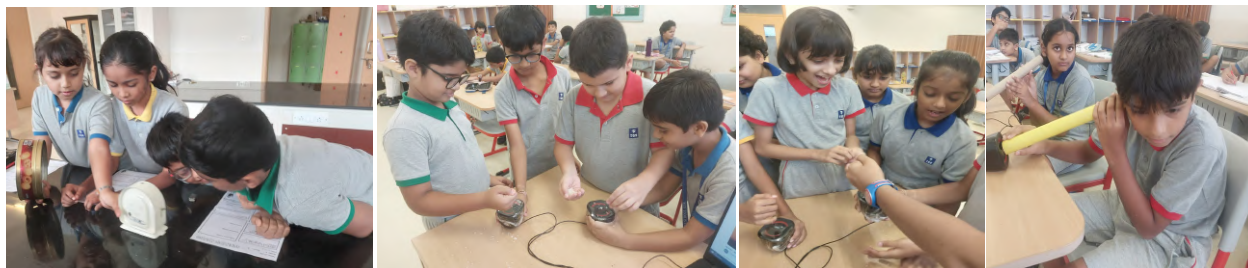
### MATH

Grade 4 learners engaged in a series of activities designed to enhance their understanding of fractions. These activities focused on converting improper fractions to mixed fractions and vice versa using fraction kits, as well as learning addition and subtraction of like fractions using a fraction wall. Learners used fraction kits to physically manipulate fraction pieces, helping them visualize and understand the process of converting improper fractions to mixed fractions and vice versa. Using a fraction wall, learners practised adding and subtracting like fractions. The fraction wall visually represented fractions, aiding in the understanding of how fractions of the same denominator can be combined or separated. Their engagement, accuracy, and fluency in these areas indicated a strong grasp of the material and a successful learning outcome.



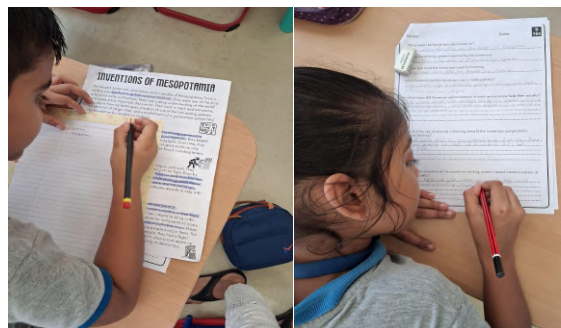
## SCIENCE

Our Grade 4 students have been buzzing with excitement as they delved into the fascinating world of sound. To understand how sound vibrations travel, they conducted an experiment using rice grains on speakers, observing how the vibrations caused the grains to move. They also investigated ways to increase or decrease the volume of sound, using cardboard rolls to amplify it and different materials to muffle it. In these experiments, they identified and controlled variables to ensure fair tests. By doing so, our young scientists learned the importance of keeping investigations accurate and consistent.



## G.P.

Our Grade 4 learners recently embarked on an exciting exploration of the Ancient River Valley Civilizations. They discovered how innovations from these times have significantly impacted our lives today. The students practised their data analysis skills and honed their research and comprehension abilities by studying fact files, answering questionnaires, and reflecting on their learning. Through this journey, they gained a deeper understanding of the geographical features that protected the Indus Valley Civilization from invaders. This exploration not only enriched their knowledge of history but also highlighted the importance of Geography in shaping civilizations. The learners' enthusiasm and insights during discussions and activities have been truly inspiring!



## GRADE 5

### ENGLISH

We are thrilled to share the exciting literary journey that our Grade 5 students embarked upon recently. Brace yourselves





for a tale of wonder and imagination as our young scholars delved into the enchanting world of "The Little Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.

Firstly, our students immersed themselves in the timeless story, uncovering its profound messages and whimsical charm. They engaged in lively discussions, sharing their insights and interpretations of the Little Prince's adventures and encounters. From the wisdom of the fox to the mysterious nature of the rose, every chapter sparked new thoughts and reflections!

But that's not all - our Grade 5 wizards took their exploration to the next level! They formed groups and worked together to create dynamic presentations for each chapter of the book. Imagine the creativity at play as they summarized and analysed the storyline, characters, and themes from their unique perspectives. From thoughtful critiques to imaginative retellings, each presentation was a testament to their deep understanding and creativity. We couldn't be prouder of our Grade 5 stars for their dedication to literature, teamwork, and creative expression. Their enthusiasm and passion for learning continue to inspire us all!

## MATH

In an unprecedented fusion of mathematics and munchies, Grade 5 took learning to a whole new level this week. The topic? Quadrilaterals. The method? Vegetables!

The students were asked to bring an assortment of cut vegetable sticks to class. The mission was simple yet delicious: form quadrilaterals using the veggies as building blocks.

As the lesson kicked off, the classroom quickly transformed into a vibrant veggie wonderland. "Rectangle!" the teacher called, and the students eagerly grabbed their carrot sticks and celery to form perfect right angles. "Trapezium!" came the next call, and zucchinis and cucumbers were swiftly arranged to create the shape.

Giggles and excitement filled the air as the students navigated the properties of quadrilaterals with their edible tools. The students not only mastered the shapes but also learned to collaborate and think creatively.

But the highlight of the lesson came after the last quadrilateral was formed. In a twist that delighted the entire class, the students were given the green light to gobble up their geometric creations. Cheers erupted as the budding mathematicians turned into enthusiastic snackers, devouring their veggies with newfound appreciation. (Hygiene was



maintained throughout.)

## SCIENCE

We have been exploring some exciting concepts related to the States of Matter, focusing on the boiling point and melting point of water, as well as the process of evaporation. During our experiment, we used a thermometer to measure the temperature at which water starts to boil. Watching the water bubble and turn into steam was a fascinating experience for everyone!

The melting point is the temperature at which a solid turns into a liquid. For ice, this happens at 0°C (32°F). We observed this change by measuring the temperature of ice as it melted into water. This experiment helped us understand how heat energy causes particles in a solid to move faster until they break free and become a liquid. To bring these concepts to life, we conducted experiments in the lab and recorded it in our notebooks using the scientific method.



## G.P.

In our Grade 5 class, we have been diving into the fascinating world of communication. Communication is the key to sharing ideas, feelings, and information with others. It's essential for building relationships and working together effectively. This month, we focused on the three main types of communication: verbal, non-verbal, and written. To bring these concepts to life, our learners were divided into groups and performed role-plays depicting each type of communication. Through these role-playing activities, our students gained a deeper understanding of the different forms of communication and their significance in everyday life. They learned that effective communication involves not only

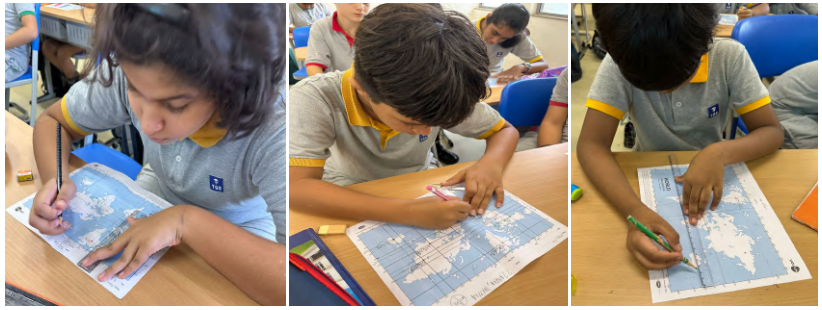


what we say but also how we say it and even what we write. We are proud of our Grade 5 learners for their enthusiasm and creativity in these activities. Their ability to work together and express themselves in various ways is truly commendable.



## **GEOGRAPHY**

We had interesting classes where the students learned to locate places on the world map using coordinates. This involved using the system of Latitude and Longitude, which are numerical values that pinpoint a specific location on Earth's surface.



**That brings us to the end of this Newsletter. The next newsletter will be for the period 29<sup>th</sup> July to 17<sup>th</sup> August 2024.**

**Regards**

**The Gera School**