

THE GOENKAN VISTA

An expression of the aspirations of young Goenkans

DIRECTOR- PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



The months of August and September have been full of frenetic activity with students preparing for the Annual Day for grades 9 and 11. The students hosted the musical 'Frozen' successfully at the Epicentre, Gurugram. Not merely was it a clear showcase of the histrionic talents of the students, it was also a reflection of the diligence and dedication of staff.

In the PYP, the students and staff celebrated Grand Parents Day with great gusto. At the same time, academic work was resumed in earnest and students now edging closer to the examination. I am certain that the Holistic approach to education which is advocated by the institution will help our students emerge as versatile global citizens.

Happy reading!

COFFEE MORNING

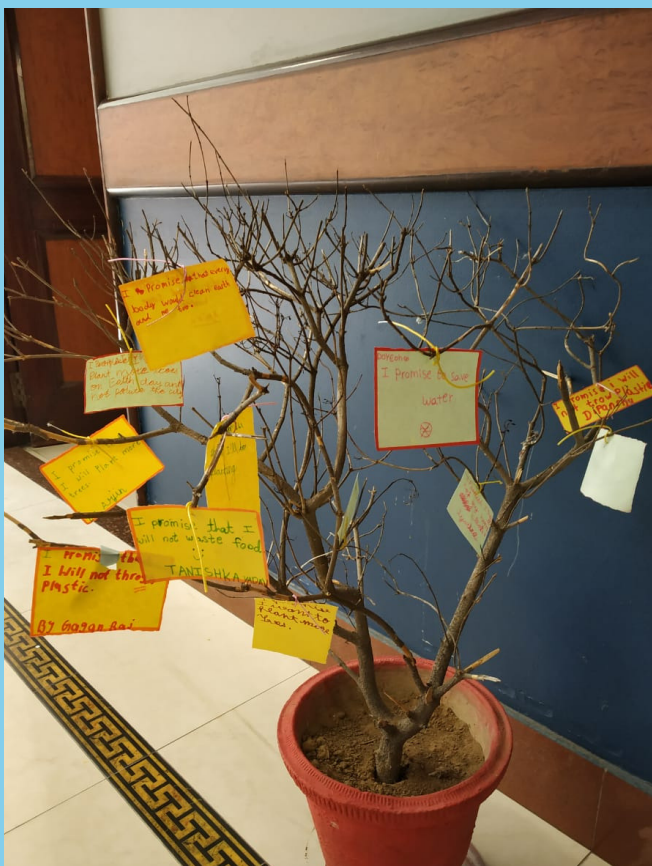
The Coffee Morning is a great way to know other parents, share experiences, learn new skills and interact with the teachers. The first Coffee Morning of the session was organized at GD Goenka World School on April 27th 2019, to orient the parents to the PYP pedagogy. It was heartening to see a lot of parents turn up for the event. The theme of the Coffee Morning was the IB Learner Attributes. All the parents were introduced to the IB Learner Profile through hands-on activities which helped them understand the importance of changing the overall personality of a child and thus engaged in a very fruitful discussion. Parents, who are our very important stakeholders, were also asked to give their inputs on the various policies. They were apprised of the grade curriculum too.

Parents having a fun time whilst gaining an understanding of the IB learner profile.



Earth Day Celebrations

Like every other year, Earth Day was celebrated in GD Goenka World School by the students of grades nursery to fifth who took a pledge to save Earth and posted their role on a wish tree placed outside their classrooms. Students of Kindergarten planted saplings and pledged to take care of the plants for a greener Earth. The pledge taken, although small-scaled, incorporated little steps that will help the planet in the long run: impacting the community not only within the school premises but also that outside of the school. Students also watched a presentation on “Growing trees for a safer and Greener Earth”, followed by a classroom discussion on the importance of growing trees and the after-effects of cutting down the trees.



RECOGNITION DAY



On April 11th 2019, Thursday, GD Goenka World School held its annual Recognition Day- a milestone in the life of all our students. It is a day when we celebrate the success of all our PYP students in academic and non-academic fields. Our Director Principal, Dr. Neeta Bali, appreciated and congratulated each and every student who was awarded a certificate reflecting the PYP Learner Profiles: Knowledgeable, Risk-Taker, Caring, Inquirer, Communicator, Open-minded, Balanced, Reflective, Thinker, and Principled. The celebration involved the student choir, who sang two melodious songs, followed by a musical, and dance performance by our PYP students which were attended and appreciated by our parent community.



Pool Bash

It is nearly impossible for one to have more fun than playing in a splash pool, especially on a hot, summer day! Swimming and other water activities strengthen motor skills in children, as well as build balance and the ability to propel and navigate. Moreover, children's coordination is also sharpened as well. Keeping these facts in mind, PYP organised a pool bash for the students on May 17, 2019. The children were present in colourful swimsuits and whilst most had great fun playing in water, they also spent time enjoying various other activities outside the pool area. This served as the perfect time for them to bond with their friends and facilitators, shed all inhibitions, and just be happy and excited. Children enjoyed the cool pool (under the guidance of professional coaches), music and had a mind blowing experience at the photo booth which was especially created for them. The children thoroughly enjoyed the splash pool activity, jumping in and splashing the water at their friends, and playing with floating toys. The kids were still beaming and in no hurry to retreat even after the event was over!



BRIDGE COURSE FOR GRADE XI

A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO IB

The first day of the Bridge Course began with a brief introduction given by the Diploma Program Coordinator, Dr. Manisha Mehta. The Director-Principal, Dr. Neeta Bali, addressed the students on the relevance and significance of the course and motivated them to make the most of it.

The first session was conducted by the Head of the Humanities Department, Ms. Sudha Bhatia and her team. The students did an activity called "Unraveling the Group 3 Disciplines", where they researched the key terms specific to the subject of their choice. The activity was based on the IB Learner Profile, "inquirer". The students were also introduced to the research skills necessary for the IB Curriculum through a brief presentation.

The second session was conducted by the CAS Coordinator, Mr. Jinas Panicker, the Vice CAS secretary, Anisha Sethi and Vice cultural head, Ananya Singh. It was an interactive session as senior students introduced the core component of the IB Diploma Program and explained the importance of CAS. The three strands of CAS were explained in detail: Creativity, Activity and Service. The students were also given an overview of the kind of portfolio they need to maintain which includes all proposal and reflection forms. One CAS project is an essential part that should include two or more core strands of CAS. Towards the end of the session, students were given an opportunity to ask questions and clear their doubts.

The third session of the day was conducted by the Head of the Foreign Languages Department, Ms. Sujata Pant and her team. An activity was done to develop interactive skills for the Individual oral assessment which is based on the course themes: identities, experiences, human ingenuity, social organization and sharing the planet. The students were given a sample image and they worked in pairs to express themselves in their chosen foreign language as per the guidance and rules reiterated to them. It was a new experience for them as IOP is a unique component of IB.

The fourth session was conducted by the Head of the Science Department, Ms. Sonia Kochhar and team on Research Skills and References. The fifth session was conducted by the Head of the Visual Arts Department, Mr. Amitabh Ranjan and two senior students. A presentation was shown to students.

The first day of the Bridge Course ended with a session by the Head of the English Department, Ms. Anupama Chopra and her team. The students were given an activity to identify global issues from a stimulus. The activity started by showing a video and children were told the difference between answer types and the various requirements of IBDP. The students enjoyed the activity thoroughly.



GERMAN CONCERT

On behalf of the Germany Embassy, Max Mueller Bhavan invited our German Language learners to a Music Concert at Modern School, Vasant Vihar which was held on 24th April by the German music Band group "Lebensmusiker" which is German for "life musicians". CLS, IG, and IBDP German students attended the concert, accompanied by the German teacher, Ms. Mahak.

The five "life musicians" between 22 and 60, played songs from a variety of musical backgrounds and played handmade, life-affirming pop with German lyrics which kept the audience engaged. It was a really good learning experience for all German students and they explored this opportunity in a creative way.



IB Learner Profile

Assembly

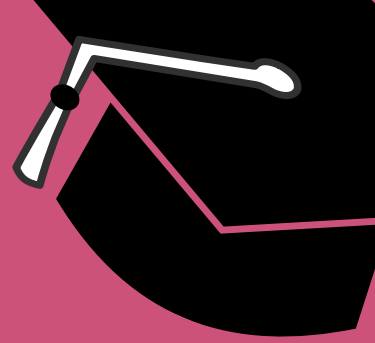
A session was conducted on the 16th of April, 2019 to introduce the IB learner profiles. The main aim of the session was to generate awareness. The session was mainly for the new students in Grade XI. It helped the students understand the relevance and significance of the learner profiles in the IB curriculum.

Grade 12 students briefly described each profile with the help of a PowerPoint presentation which made the session collaborative and interactive. The students shared their real-life experiences on how they have integrated the learner profiles. The session concluded with an interaction where the students from the audience spoke about which IB Learner Profiles are depicted by the Director Principal, the Deputy Head Mistress and the Diploma Program Coordinator.

The session was very informative.



UNIVERSITY FAIR @GDGWS



GD Goenka World School hosted the Career Fair for students of Grades X to XII. Twenty three Institutions and Universities participated in the fair. The fair was officially opened by Dr Neeta Bali, Director-Principal of GD Goenka World School. She met all the participating universities and interacted with the students.

The students benefited from the opportunity and met with various institutions from different countries. The students had a detailed discussion on their suitability of the country, courses and institution.

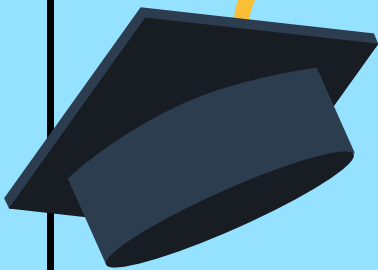


Universities awaiting the arrival of passionate students.

GRADUATION

CLASS OF 2019

On May 25th, 2019, GD Goenka World School held a glorious Graduation Ceremony to felicitate the outgoing batch of 2019. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Chief guest Ms Sharon Lowen, alongside parents and family members of the students. The Director Principal, Dr Neeta Bali addressed the august gathering welcoming the chief guest and informing the students about the sense of gratitude to the parents. She also talked about the learner profiles that help IB students become most suitable to global standards with the skills that IB teaches them so subtly. She said that the school will always remember and welcome the students years after they have graduated. The IBDP Coordinator, Dr Manisha Mehta shared her thoughts with the students telling them how in today's world new avenues of careers have opened, unlike the past and how the students can help make India a superpower of careers with crisscrossing career paths. She also reminded the students how they have learnt time management and how the IB program has taught them to find resolutions to conflicts.



FAREWELL

The farewell for the batch of 2019 was an eventful ceremony hosted by the current grade 12 students for the outgoing batch. The Director Principal, Dr Neeta Bali, DHM, Ms Shahnaz Banu Butt, and Major Kartikeya Sharma graced the occasion with their presence. The floor was bubbling with excitement, with Gamini Khurana and Shubham Mahajan earning the titles of Ms and Mr Goenkan. The energy in the room was palpable throughout the event. The juniors performed many dance performances and a couple of melodious songs. During the event, amusing tag lines were presented intermittently to each and every student. The students with IB learner profiles were awarded as caring, thinker, risk-taker, open-minded, etc from the passing out batch. The event was followed by a DJ and lunch wherein everyone exchanged their bittersweet goodbyes and feelings. The batch of 2019 has left an everlasting impression on the school and will definitely be missed.



Nukad Natak

CLS students showcased their feelings against growing terrorism through a NUKAD NATAK. Students made an attempt to voice their views to curb the people who are trying to spread hatred among different communities.



South Asia Math Ninja Challenge



A total of 186 students actively participated from GDGWS and collectively put in 514 hours of mathematics education during this challenge! This is commendable and is a proud moment for G.D. Goenka World School on their exceptional performance. The school ranked 13th overall in the South Asia Maths Ninja Challenge, earning more than 12,800 of Medal Points.



World Scholar's cup



It's a prestigious moment for us to announce that three students from GDGWS ~ Ananya Singh, Naman Akanshi, Rehan Chibber ~ have cleared the regional round of the World's Scholar cup. The competition was held in four fields - collaborative writing, scholar's bowl, scholar's challenge and team debate. Ananya was recognized as a confident speaker. Rehan was recognized in the subject areas of arts and social sciences and received the 17th champion award. Naman was recognized in the subject areas of history and the unique topic of unsolved mysteries. These students will now move on to represent GDGWS on the global level.

Talent Show

The first IGCSE assembly of the session 2019-2020 was scheduled on 18th April, Thursday, with an aim to introduce the new students and to showcased the secret talent of the new IGCSE members. It started with the prayer and a wonderful thought, followed by news and a plethora of live performances like dance, melodious songs, playing instruments like guitar, violin, drums and reciting poems. It was an overwhelming experience to see such a wonderful show put up by them.

The assembly culminated with the warm wishes and blessings of our Director-Principal, Dr.Neeta Bali, who also congratulated the budding artists, extending a warm welcome to all.



Film, Fly, Australia

GDGWS has ranked runners up at Australian Film Fly competition organized by Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade). Our school fielded 3 teams each of which put in tremendous amounts of hard work. Our team consisting of Arpit Kumar and Ananya Singh made a video on the topic of Humanitarian Engineering and were declared runners up. The competition was open to schools across India and 4 other countries with hundreds of video submissions being made across the five countries.

Movie Outing for CLS Students

Middle school students enjoying the latest blockbuster 'Avengers: Endgame' to beat the ennui set in by the augmenting temperature!



May DAY

The students of Grade 11 A and B organized an assembly on 30th of April on the theme May Day. The assembly was conducted to show respect to the labourers and the students talked about the importance of labourers in our lives. The students apprised the audience about the origin and the significance of Labour/May Day. This encouraged the academic community to empathise and also recognise the contribution of the otherwise ignored class. Students realised that it was a unique way to express compassion giving cards and chocolates to acknowledge the contribution of the labourers to society. The idea was given by the IBDP coordinator Dr Manisha Mehta which was further taken ahead by the students on the following day on the 1st of May. The assembly and the resultant attitude made the IB learner's enhance caring and reflective attributes.



SWIMMING MEET

Annual Goenkan Inter-School Swimming Meet was held on 7th and 8th May 2019. Twenty schools and more than 400 participants participated in admiring efficiency. It was one of the most invigorating competitions in Gurugram district, as it was accompanied by national and state-level swimmers. GD Goenka World School won the overall trophy with 54 medals and 213 points. This was a moment of immense contentment for all the 'Goenkan Swim Squad' and a loud chorus of cheer followed the giving out of the trophy by our Director-Principal, Dr Neeta Bali. The runner-up team was The Shri Ram School, Aravali with 26 medals and 130 points and the second runner-up was DPSI EDGE with 19 medals and 91 points. It was a revitalising and adrenaline-pumping event, where the participants swam with excellent endurance and displayed exceptional talent. There were five age-groups: under-8; under-10; under-12; under-14; under-17 and 62 events in total with numerous heats. The best swimmer of each age group won a trophy in boys and girls categories respectively. As any competition is not all about winning and losing, it is about participating with a positive spirit and making new records. This competition marked the hard work of swimmers and their devotion to swimming.



MUN

"I believe that children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way." -Whitney Houston

Jasmine Kaushik, a student from the 10th grade recently attended two MUN conferences and we are proud to report that she has won the High Commendation award and a cash prize of INR 4000/-. She was the delegate of Russian Federation and Cuba in the United Nation General Assembly Organised by Khalsa college and Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi University.

Our heartiest congratulations go out to Jasmine and we hope she takes this motivation and commitment forward.



Jasmine has made us proud.

GRADE 8B

ASSEMBLY

Class 8B showcased their class assembly on the topic “Gratitude” on 4th May 2019. It was a beautiful amalgamation of Music, Dance and Drama all under one heading -Gratitude. The highlights of the assembly were:

- ** Instrumental music performance by Tavish and Lucky
- ** Song by the girls of 8B
- ** Dance by Deeksha and Khushi
- ** Poem “Be Thankful” by 8B students
- ** Role Play by Tavish and his team

The performance of 8B students was outstanding and was liked by one and all.

In the end, the students gave thank you cards to nannies to celebrate “Labour’s day”.



A scintillating performance.

Blended Learning on "Adaptations"

Students of Grade 8 A applied their knowledge of “adaptations” while doing an investigation on how ‘huddling together in groups’ help the birds to survive the tough winters and keep them warm. This investigation, furthermore, fortified their knowledge of scientific skills by making graphs, tables, and data interpretation.



GRADE 8A

ASSEMBLY

As the academic session 2019-20 commenced, Grade 8A students took whole-hearted initiative and presented their first CLS Assembly on the topic “If you can dream it, you can achieve it”. It was an assembly with a difference as it was showcased by the new students. Aarushi, Daksh, Tanishq, Vyom, Dev and Gift, the new members of the class, steered the assembly confidently by looking into minute nuances to make it creaseless. Few highlights were Shauraya’s musical rendition of the song “ I have a dream” on the synthesizer; a song by Adrienne Gift; a video on achieving your dreams and working conscientiously; and a poem by Rik with a message to never give up till you achieve your dreams. The assembly culminated with a video on “Class rules” which stole the show as it was not only educative but also hilarious.

The entire presentation was very deftly compiled by Nakul and supported by the expertise of the other experienced classmates. The assembly ended with reassuring and inspiring words by CLS HOP, Ms Deepti Kaushal, who spoke on the importance of achieving greater heights through self-discipline.



GRADE 10 ASSEMBLY

On the 2nd of May students of GD Goenka conducted an assembly on school policies.

The students started with the morning prayer followed by the thought and news updates. Thereafter the school policies on discipline, attendance, transport, meal, uniform and promotion etc were shared to apprise the new and old students.

Overall it was informative for all. The school song and national anthem were sung to culminate.



Several students participated in the assemebly.



Students and teachers listen on attentively to the students of grade 10.

Scholastic Book Fair

There is no friend as loyal as a book."

To confirm that the pupils get access to the finest books for their reading levels and interests, a book fair was organized by Scholastic India in GD Goenka World School from 23rd April to 25th April 2019. The fair was inaugurated by the school Director-Principal, Dr Neeta Bali, who deeply desired that the students instil reading habits by selecting literature books from myriad cultures across the globe. The students perused through the eclectic range of books on display and filled in their "wish list ". The fair was an immense success among children as it provided a brilliant opportunity to one and all to purchase the books of their choices.



Mother Day Celebrations

Grade XI students conducted an assembly on the occasion of Mother's Day. The students recited a poem, sang a song and spoke a few lines about why their mother is special to them. The rendition of the iconic song "Maa" from "Tare Zameen Par" was breath-taking. The performances depicted the unconditional love and respect they have for their mothers. The heart-warming stories shared by the students about their mothers highlighted the remarkable attachment that they have with their mothers. The poem, written and narrated by Vaibhav Bhardwaj, beautifully conveyed the powerful bond everyone shares with their mothers. The assembly helped the students to understand the significance behind this special day. It allowed them to express their love and gratitude for their mothers and show appreciation for everything that a mother does



SARISKA TRIP



“To travel is to live”- Hans Christian Andersen

To live every moment with joy, fun and enjoy the breathtaking views, the students of Grade 5 to Grade 12 started on an exuberant journey to Sariska Astroport- an experiential trip on the 19th of April, very much awaiting the fun-filled days. After a 6-hour bus ride to the destination, the children were given a warm welcome by the local folks in their traditional way. The rest of the day was filled with refreshments, sumptuous lunch followed by exciting team building activities, trekking in the fresh mountain breeze and relishing the beautiful landscape.

Taking pictures in the midst of this beauty was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The day ended with an amazing experience on constellation hunt, planetary and deep-sky object observation and much more. The Rajasthani cultural show and dance were the other highlights of the evening.

On the next morning, the students mounted on the jeep in a jubilant mood and zipped off to the forest reserve. They had an overwhelming experience seeing the different animals in their natural habitat. Coming back from the Jungle Safari, the students had a hands-on experience on a demo rocket launch. Overall, it was a brilliant outing which unbolted the young minds to greater level of ecstasy.



GD Goenka World School proudly showcased 'Silver Fiesta- A movie critiquing Festival', on 26th of April 2019. It was an inter-school event conceptualized by Director Principal Dr. Neeta Bali and conducted by the English Department, which had participants from seven schools. Silver Fiesta was a unique event that has never been conducted in any of the schools before.

The event started off with a workshop by Dr, Ritu Sood, Dean of School of communication at GD Goenka University. She outlined how a movie should be "read" and provided a deeper insight into the way a film should be critiqued.

The movie screened was "The Station Agent" by director Tim McCarthy, which revolved mainly around the odd friendship of three misfits- Fin, a lonely dwarf, Joe, a food truck owner, and Olivia, a divorcee who had recently lost her son. The movie was very relatable and realistic. All the teams critiqued the movie on the basis of the already shared criteria. The enthusiasm of the teams was evident from their presentations which lasted ten minutes each. The participants shared their analysis fluently with the audience.

GD Goenka World School bagged the first position but being the host team passed on the trophy to DPS International Edge, Gurgaon. First runners up was Lotus Valley School, Gurgaon and the second runners up position was given to GD Goenka Public School, Gurgaon. The Jury's Choice award was given to Scottish High International, Gurgaon.

To conclude the day, there were marvellous musical performances by PYP and IBDP students. Traditional Rajasthani folk dance and the band performance by 'The Believers', our budding boarders, was an icing on the cake, resonating the hall with the sound of music and excitement.

Silver Fiesta was a refreshing, new event that should definitely be continued!





*"The journey not the arrival
matters." - T.S. Eliot*

Laden with beautiful, amusing and enlightening experiences,
the trip to 'The Mystical and Magical Vales of Bhutan',
undertaken by the students of GD Goenka World School, was
a treasured one!

The memorable trip to the land of the great
Himalayan kingdom, which commenced on 25th of March,
was a cavalcade of surreal, sublime charm.

On the first day, the students brimmed with action as they visited a Bhutanese school. Further, during the day, they went on an adventurous trek to the Tiger's Nest monastery, which is precariously perched on a 900 meters high cliff; it's a famous place where the 'Second Buddha' is known to have meditated.

In the realms of a state also known as a 'Kingdom of Happiness', the students nurtured their adventurous streak by foraying into nature reserves and delving into the intricate art of archery.

One of the best experiences was visiting the massive statue - 'The Buddha Dordenma' -erected on a mountain top. Unbeknownst to several tourists, this giant Buddha statue has 125,000 smaller Buddhas hidden inside it.

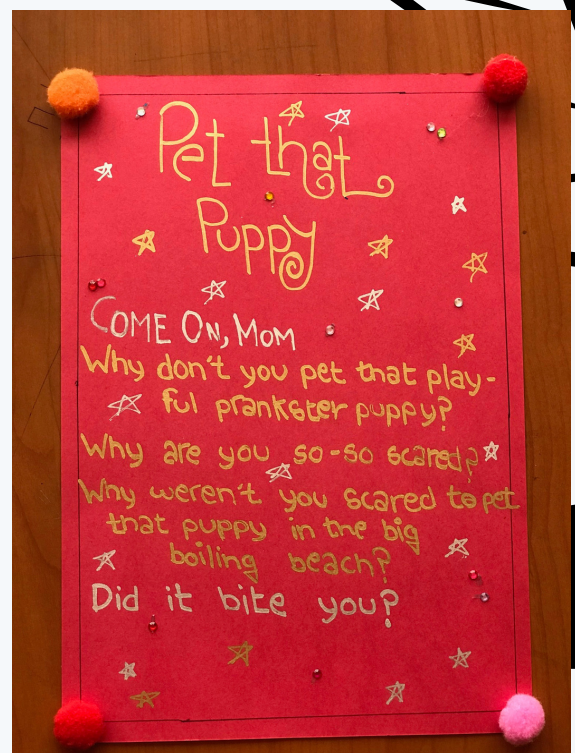
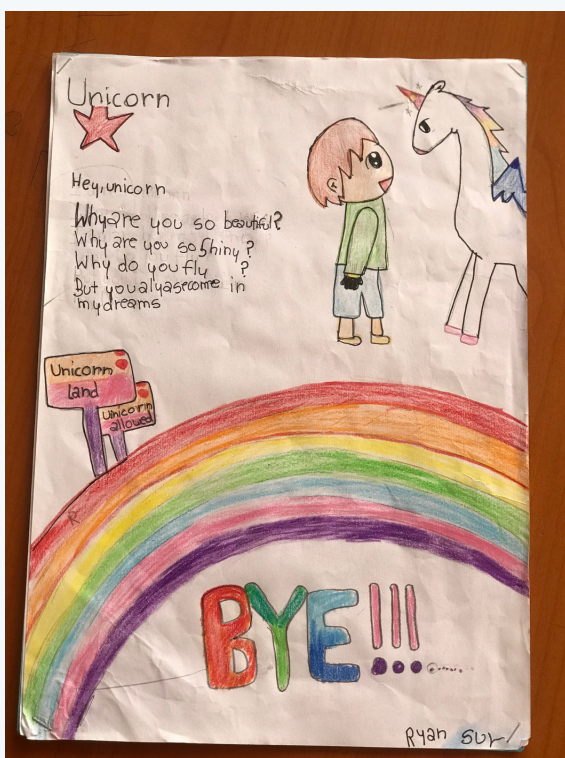
The students also visited the National Museum to understand and appreciate the bountiful culture of Bhutan. In the leisure hours of eventide, the students ventured into the bustling, buzzing bazaar to shop voraciously for souvenirs.

When the students flew back home, they all knew in their hearts how immensely they would miss this unique travelling experience as they were coming back not only with eternal indelible experience but also with clean air in their lungs!



POETRY WRITING

To make the sizzling summer months interesting, poetry writing marathon session for all the students of grade 6-8, was held before the summer break as a part, of course, culmination activity. The students chose from myriad topics: mythological characters, jingoism, Harry Potter or 21 Samarosh – 1847 Saragarhi Battle. Penning down their thoughts was a challenging task but their power of imagination transcended beyond all expectations. It was a spectacular end of the session activity which was fully enjoyed and appreciated by each student.





Behes is a non-profit initiative working to promote debate, public speaking and reasoned expression in schools and colleges throughout India and beyond. They are committed to the vision of building an all-India platform for young students to express themselves and debate some engaging and relevant topics. Every Behes tournament is a celebration of ideas, with students exploring a wide variety of topics and critically examining them. Designed to be interactive and challenging, each tournament rewards the top teams with qualification to the Maha Behes, our season finals held at the end of every calendar.

Without any doubt, the competition was interesting and tough; Out of 250 students who participated in the competition, GD Goenka World School student

Ms. Parisha Bhutani of grade 11 was awarded “BEST SPEAKER”. Not only this, our School has been shortlisted for National round of ‘BEHES COMPETITION’ which is expected to be held in DEC’

2019

Following students participated from GDGWS:

Adi Mishra - Grade 10

Jasmine Kaushik - Grade 10

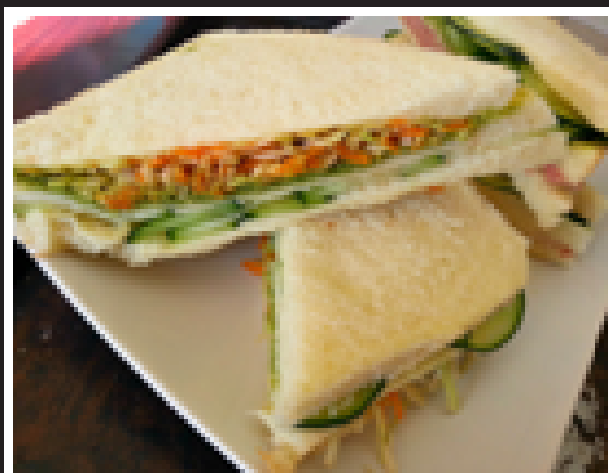
Parisha Bhutani - Grade 11 (Awarded – Best Speaker)





COOKING WITHOUT FIRE

The little chefs of Kindergarten were excited for 'Cooking without fire' held today i.e on Friday, 26th July 2019. The little ones were thrilled to prepare sandwiches and Bhelpuri with the support of a parent (Ms Sonia - Deemayra's mom) and their tutors. They enhanced their social skills by waiting for their turn to butter the bread and mix the ingredients. The fun-filled day ended with students being overwhelmed as sandwiches and Bhelpuri were served to them. It was an amazing treat with fun and learning for the little ones. Last but not the least a 'Thank You Card' was given to the Parent by the Kindergarten team.



KARGIL DIWAS

The students of GDGWS participated in the celebration of Kargil Vijay Diwas to recognize the contributions of our valiant elders and veterans who have sacrificed so much to protect our nation.

The event "Heroes Then, Heroes Now" was organized by EMOHA- Eldercare on 26 July 2019, Friday 5 pm onwards at the Open Air Theater, Cyber Hub, DLF Phase 2, Gurugram.



UPCOMING EVENTS

PYP Triangular Conference - 21st September

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