

# VIN-Views, Ideas & News

*An expression of the aspirations of young Goenkans.*



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An oasis is always seen as a beautiful retreat that provides relief from the harsh vastness of a desert. Rarely is a school referred to as an oasis. Yet, GD Goenka is just that. Much to their relief, the institution's vicinity welcomes its visitors with blooming flowers, unnumbered plant species, numerous trees, perpetual lawns, benches and wide walks. Like an oasis, this also is a symbol of the "Goenkan Experience!" An experience that isn't only a place to study, contemplate, renew, redirect and provision for countless past and present students. As trees of the oasis that provide cover and give protection with shade, our institution protects its students from beliefs being challenged and reinforces them with new learnings. They assimilate new truths, are pushed to new boundaries and relate to others unlike themselves. Prior to the Covid-19 outbreak, our academics were focused around four walls of each classroom, semester after semester, by our specific discipline and books. But today, we have stepped up by thinking even more broadly, innovatively in a global and universal context by evolving to effectively fulfill our mission and vision. With that said, we must continuously challenge around these changes not only ourselves but limitations by introducing everyone to new ideas and ensure all are aware of where our environment is moving towards. There is also a need to educate not just our students but also our educators in the system, encourage everyone to be aware and proactive; take responsibility and engage around big important opportunities that lie in the future.








Dr. Neeta Bali



AN IB AND CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

**GD GOENKA**  
WORLD SCHOOL  
Gurugram Sohna Road, India

**Congratulations!**  
**IGCSE ACHIEVERS**  
2021 Examination

|  |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| <br><b>Nikita Marwah</b><br><b>1<sup>st</sup></b><br><b>POSITION</b><br><b>97%</b><br><b>with 8A*</b><br>Total Subjects 8<br>Subject Topper<br>Biology 98%<br>Chemistry 99%<br>English 95%<br>French 98% | <br><b>Alisha Karwasra</b><br><b>2<sup>nd</sup></b><br><b>POSITION</b><br><b>95.88%</b><br><b>with 8A*</b><br>Total Subjects 8<br>Subject Topper<br>Economics 96% | <br><b>Rishabh Agarwal</b><br><b>3<sup>rd</sup></b><br><b>POSITION</b><br><b>95.63%</b><br><b>7A*, 1A</b><br>Total Subjects 8<br>Subject Topper<br>Physics 98%<br>Environmental Management 95%<br>Hindi 95%<br>Computer Science 98%<br>Int. Maths 98% | <br><b>Somin Shah</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>POSITION</b><br><b>90.38%</b><br>Total Subjects 8<br>With 6A*, 2A | <br><b>Priyank Behera</b><br><b>5<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>POSITION</b><br><b>90.13%</b><br>Total Subjects 8<br>With 6A*, 1A |
|--|--|--|---|---|

GDGWS#STAY HOME#STAY SAFE

## IGCSE March - 2021 Examination Results

With a deep sense of pride and immense pleasure, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our IGCSE students on their outstanding results!

This year is a repeat of previous years where our students have again achieved strong results and have exceeded the expectations of GD Goenka World School. This is well deserved and we bless all the students on their achievement.

Collectively also, the Class of 2021 has made astonishing progress during this year of pandemic and has shown determination and resiliency in the lead up to and during their exams. Their effort and mindset have paid off as demonstrated by the students' individual results and the school's overall results. These significant improvements in exam outcomes instill confidence that we are taking the necessary action and in a swift manner to ensure that GD Goenka World School becomes the outstanding school our community and students deserve.

The 2021 results are once again exceptional and in line with our 'Be Ambitious' philosophy means we will continue to strive for further improvement in the future. We also thank our teachers, school and support staff who have worked exceptionally hard to ensure our students' results are the best they possibly can be, and better expected. Congratulations again to all our students on their achievements as we continue our journey to become outstanding!

## Class of 2021-Graduation Ceremony

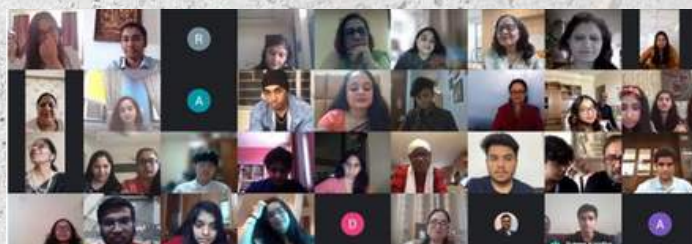
The annual graduation ceremony that marked another successful academic year at G.D. Goenka, was held virtually on Saturday, May 22, 2021. As 2020-21 draws to a close, parents and teachers reflect upon this time after all year of contribution. With great optimism, it was a time to wish students all the best for a new journey ahead. The virtual event began with a welcome address by Ms. Anupama Chopra, COD English for esteemed dignitaries and faculty members. Followed by IBDP students pledging honour and reciting patriotic prayers. Further, our respected Vice-Chairperson, Mrs. Renu Goenka took time to bless graduating students and to release "Yearbook-2021". In addition, Director-Principal, Dr. Neeta Bali shared pearls of wisdom, congratulated grandparents on securing a place in leading National and International universities; and noted that as former Goenkans the Institution itself will always stand by them. We further had Dr. Manisha Mehta-Head of IBDP, sharing important views on areas such as open careers paths that lie ahead. More so, India being a hub of opportunities for Goenkans to choose from. Following segments included - Virtual Certificate distribution for Sections C, D and E; Solo musical performance by Ara Jo; After conferring the degrees and recognising individual each graduating student, respected teachers Ms. Naina, Ms. Minakshi and Ms. Savita briefly shared their memories as an integral part of the school; Dr. Neeta Bali, further announced Valedictorian and Best IB Boy and girl followed by Valedictorian Speech. Chief Guest of Honour - Mr. Nithya Shanti, a highly acclaimed and internationally respected spiritual teacher, seminar leader, writer and educator shared motivational and inspirational thoughts and teachings with the graduates. Making the event memorable, a video dedicated to Grade-12 captured key moments during their learning journeys the previous year. The students cherished this dearly! As Dr. Neeta Bali, reflects, "Graduation ceremonies have always been a highly valued Goenkan tradition to ensure that every child is recognized and awarded for his/her deserving skills. Not only limited to this, but students themselves also cherish the relationship they have developed over the years with their Alma Mater". The ceremony concluded with joy and celebration and inspired students to achieve greater heights in their future.

AN IB AND CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

**GD GOENKA**  
WORLD SCHOOL

**VIRTUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY**  
MAY 22, 2021 | SATURDAY  
1100 - 1200 Hours

on Google Hang Out Meet  
GET STARTED



## AVOW-A student-led initiative



Project Avow is a student-led initiative under the insightful leadership of our Chief Mentor and Director-Principal Dr. Neeta Bali. This initiative aims to reach out and helping students overwhelmed by the ongoing pandemic event by providing emotional health assistance to its programmes. The initiative provides an emotional connection that helps comfort and give a sense of validation and address any issues. Avow's mission is to increase awareness with a strong sense of emotional well-being; help encourage students develop self-reliance and self-regulation for their behaviour, not only at GD Goenka World School but globally. To further help this cause, the initiative uses Instagram as a connecting source.

With the pandemic leaving a terrible strain on almost every aspect of the global economy and population, it would be brazen to say that it hasn't also left a significant strain on our emotional health. With virtual classes, examinations and social isolation, circumstances like these have withheld students to exercise their years in school with normalcy. Thus making it difficult to prioritise emotional well-being over the multitude of other tasks that tend to overwhelm us. Sadly, not many of us realise, speak up and look to address issues that arise from this as the fragility of the issue does not register as a valid reason to rest and reflect. This is dangerous! As a culmination of all these issues riles up - one may feel lost, insecure and alone leading to serious implications. Our message - *"We see you; we want to understand you and help you."* Keeping this necessity in mind, Avow has been established as an international, student-driven and expert-aided initiative for you to come to terms with your emotional health. At Avow we know of this, first-hand: All students deserve love, strength, and emotional validation. Through our sessions we understand aspects of emotional health and further develop from a range of exciting prospects further helping students to not only become self-reliant but also gain a CAS experience!

This initiative was set up in collaboration with our international partner, Win-Win connection in Barcelona where we conduct pen-pal sessions with students of American School of Barcelona, Spain.

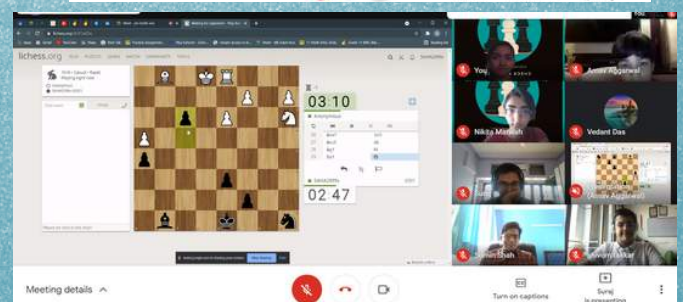
Together, the students will discuss emotional health-related topics helping each other whilst creating an emotional connection. The sessions will also have small teams, divided from a range from various topics of the general for a broader view and striving to be an open space for emotional concerns and thoughts. At the end, our programme arranges for a listening session- where students will be encouraged to introspect and progress as people with emotions. We also share a safe space for privacy.

Teams at Avow are equipped to handle the delicate nature of this mental and emotional health. Sessions are conducted and supervised by a psychology teacher, who also shares their knowledge and counsels students if the need arises. Learnings from each session are complemented by guest lectures, therefore, providing imperative depth and programme varied, distinct perspectives. For, we know it is important to have diversity in thought and judgement. We hope to see you this summer to help you pave a path to an emotionally stronger you! *Choose Avow - Reach out to us, reach out to your emotions.*

## Check and Mate - Chess Tournament

The inaugural edition of the Check and Mate Chess Tournament was conducted on the 29th and 30th of May, 2021. Organised by Grade-11 students Shivom Takkar along with Somin Shah, Nikita Marwah and Alisha Karwasara. The tournament was a successful CAS initiative wherein participants from three different segments came together for a battle of the wits, and match after match, our winners emerged! After twenty invigorating matches, we finally have our winner. In third place - Ashutosh Pandey from Grade-12 while Aarav Midha from grade-11 stood second. And last but not least, the winner of the Check and Mate chess tournament, Arnav Dhanda, a grade-8 student. The students thanked Dr. Neeta Bali-Director-Principal, Dr. Manisha Mehta IBDP Head, Mr. Jinas Paniker-CAS Coordinator, PE Teacher and Mr. Ramesh Karwaskar-Manager- Fitness Centre for their continuous encouragement and support in making the tournament a success.

With that said, the second edition of the check and mate chess tournament is now in the making, and we hope to see you there!





# Virtual Book Fair-CLS



Learning to read strengthens the brain, increases empathy and builds vocabulary.

It is imperative that we, as parents and teachers, inculcate reading habits in our kids. Reading helps to open up their horizons, thinking & writing skills and reduces stress.

In an endeavour to always do the best for our students, GD Goenka World School organized a virtual book fair in collaboration with Scholastic from May 24 to May 28, 2021

As part of its aim, this virtual book fair encouraged students to get books of their choice at their doorstep.

## CAS - Clean Harbors

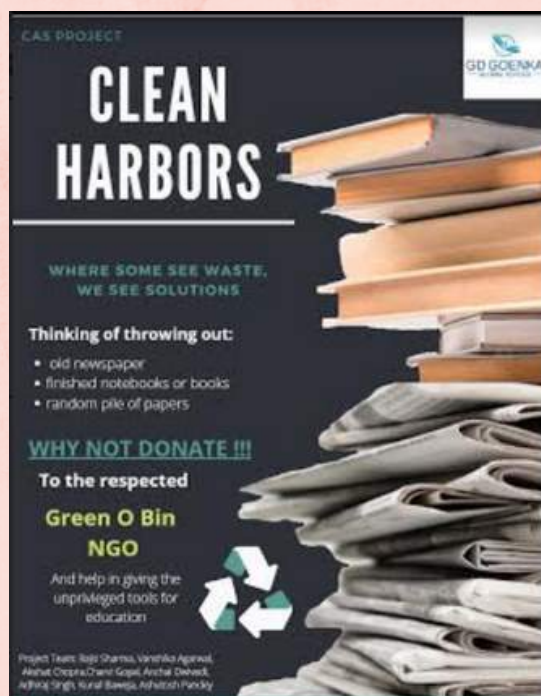
The students of grade 11 proudly and successfully held a CAS project called "Clean Harbors". In this project they aim to collect 350Kgs of paper (newspaper/notebooks/novels) and give them to Greenobin, which is India's leading recycling organization, to convert these into useful notebooks. These notebooks would further be donated to an NGO to support the education of the underprivileged. Overall this will help achieve their purpose of providing service to the community and that too in an environment-friendly way.

They were able to collect newspapers exceeding the target amount!

The project members are Adhiraj, Rajsi, Vanshika, Charvi, Anchal, Akshat, Kunal and Ashutosh.

Often one needs to gain a perspective in order to work for a change. And the perspective that these students had was - where others see waste, we see solutions.

So, thinking of throwing out your paper waste? Why not donate?



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Virtual Orientation Day for New joiners and their parents - July 10, 2021



Designed by

Ms. Akanksha Charan

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