

# IB PYP newsletter

GD Goenka World School, Gurugram Sohna Road  
An IB and Cambridge International School



The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.



**GD GOENKA**  
— WORLD SCHOOL —

## Message from the Director Principal

Dear Parents,

Empowerment is about supporting students in leading and in ensuring that they learn as they lead. Here at IB PYP, we aim to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding, compassion and respect. Our first exclusive PYP newsletter begins with the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme Mission Statement. We thought this the perfect way to begin as it voices our collective goal to improve and better the outcomes for all our students.

As a school, we recognise the importance for teachers and parents to work together and be role models. It is through watching others around us that we, as well as students, learn. It is when teachers and parents question, students will learn how to ask questions. It is when teachers and adults model curiosity that students will learn how to inquire and find knowledge.

It is when teachers and adults show care towards others that the students will endeavour to do the same.

## Message from the Head of Programme-IBPYP

Dear Parents,

It is our continuous effort to update you about the PYP Program and explain the PYP terminology through our newsletter. Through this second edition of our PYP newsletter for the months of July and August, I would like to take you on the journey of learning that took place in these two months.

At GD Goenka world School, students are given ample opportunities not only academically but also co-scholastically. It is our endeavour that each child is recognized as an independent individual. We encourage them to develop and imbibe in themselves the 10 IBPYP Learner Profile.

## What does being "Caring" mean ?

Being empathetic, compassionate and respectful towards the needs and feelings of others is being Caring. Such people will show personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Research in human development clearly shows that the seeds of empathy, caring, and compassion are present from early in life, but that to become caring, ethical people, children need adults to help them at every stage of childhood to nurture these seeds into full development.

**How can parents help to promote the attribute of being "CARING" at home:**

1. Model appropriate behaviour towards each other as children have big eyes and ears to see and hear. Whatever and however, you behave will be automatically taken in by the child.
2. Spend time with your child reading stories to them which sends out messages of being caring towards plants, animals and human beings irrespective of how rich or poor they are.
3. Model by taking care of the plants by watering, pruning etc., by feeding stray animals, by showing respect and care towards the elders in your family and in your neighbourhood.
4. Pay close attention to whether you are practicing honesty, fairness, and caring yourself and modeling skills like solving conflicts peacefully and managing anger and other difficult emotions effectively.
5. Service- Regularly engage in community service or model other ways of contributing to a community. And if possible, doing this with your child.
6. Provide opportunities for children to practice caring and gratitude by giving them responsibilities like expecting them to help in household chores., starting conversations about caring and uncaring acts they see in their daily lives or on television, encouraging children to express appreciation for family members, teachers, maids/helps at home who contribute to their lives.

# PYP Spotlight

IB Learner  
Profile

## Caring





# Shining Stars

of July & August



Following students showcased the PYP attributes in their daily routine

*well done! our little champs*





# Specialist subjects



## Hindi

Students of Grade 1 worked on the concept of connection matching the pictures with their sound. This enabled them to understand that reading becomes so much easier if we know the sounds of the maatras. Students of Grade 3 under the TD Theme "Sharing the Planet" read stories related to waste produced and how they should be disposed.



## Art

Students of Grade 2 observed the artwork created by the artist Romero Britto who is an internationally known Pop artist. His art features bright, vibrant colours, bold patterns and strong lines. Britto's art conveys Hope, Happiness, and a sense of Peace and Unity. Students created a Landscape inspired by the artist using simple patterns exploring the Elements, Principles of Art and Design- Line, Shape, Colour, Pattern and Repetition. Students of Grade 3 learnt about the Elements and Principles of Art specifically Movement. Movement can be directed along lines, edges, shapes and colour. They drew a dolphin to understand how to use lines, to create the look of movement (dolphin jumping in/out of water).





## Grade nursery

Students of grade Nursery completed their first Unit of Inquiry under the TD Theme - Who we are

### Approaches to Learning (ATL)

Communication skills (Listening, Speaking, non verbal communication) Self Management skills (Gross motor skills, Fine motor skills)

### Learner Profile

**Communicators**  
**Risk takers**

Students explored about their body parts, sense organs, collected resources from home to showcase their understanding through Show and Tell about their senses of smell, taste, what they see, feel and hear. What they use daily to keep themselves clean. They recited rhymes based on body parts and sense organs. They enthusiastically prepared lemonade and could identify its taste. They did yoga to keep themselves fit at home.



## Grade KG

**T.D Theme** How we organize ourselves

### Central Idea

Contribution of community helpers to the society may bring a difference

Children got familiar with the word community helpers. Community helpers' doctor and nurse were introduced. The place where they work, their role and the tools they use. Children could make connection with the IB Learner Profile "Caring". Children learned a rhyme on doctor and nurse and made a First Aid Box.

**Approaches to Learning (ATL):** Communication (Listening, Speaking), Social (Accepting responsibility, respecting others), Research (Observing, collecting data)

### Learner Profile

**Caring**  
**Open minded**  
**Inquirers & Knowledgeable**



**PYP Units in Action**

Grade

1



TD Theme - How the world works

Central idea - All living things go through a process of change

Students brainstormed on the meaning of living and non living things. They looked around them and identified the living and non living beings and sorted them under the categories. They listed the characteristics that makes a living thing.

Approaches to Learning (ATL): Communication skills, Thinking Skills

Learner Profile

Inquirers  
Caring



Knowledgeable



Grade

2

Trans Disciplinary Theme:  
Where we are in place and time

Central idea

Understanding the diverse cultures in societies of different countries around the world helps develop global perspective.

Children were pre- assessed by first observing their friends in the class to understand how they are different from each other. Observations made by the children led to an interesting discussion which displayed their thinking and communication skills. Children prepared a set of questions they wanted to ask their friend to find out more about him/her. This provoked their curiosity to know more about their friend and their culture. Based on the pre- assessment they created a KWLH chart. Approaches to Learning (ATL)



PYP Units in Action



## Grade 3



## Grade 4

**Central Idea**

Change in attitude towards minimizing waste may lead to a sustainable environment.

TD Theme- Sharing the planet

**Approaches to Learning (ATL)**

Communication skills, research skills, Social skills

Waste management is one of the biggest challenges that the whole world faces. Students of Grade 3 have started inquiring about the materials that are considered as waste. They began to develop a sense of wonder about the world around them and understood the importance of caring for the Earth. They found various words related to "Waste" and sorted them out under biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste. They explored topics of how humans interact with the world around them including the use of resources, impacts on the land, water, air, and other living things in a local environment.

**Learner Profile**

**Caring  
Reflective  
Knowledgeable**

**Central Idea**

Availability and production of food items involve various techniques

**Transdisciplinary Theme**

How we organize ourselves

**Approaches to Learning (ATL)**

Research - Information literacy + Media literacy, Communication-Exchanging information + Literacy, Thinking- Critical + Reflective

Students collaborated for the central idea of the unit and came up with interesting ideas. They have been exploring the unit "Field to table" under the transdisciplinary theme "How we organize ourselves". They learnt the difference between processed and unprocessed foods and have been learning about different ways in which the food s can be preserved to increase its shelf life. They also got an opportunity to look at some of the traditional methods of preserving foods like pickling, adding salt/oil, etc. They are also reflective in finding out how food is preserved at their homes (freezing peas in the refrigerator and how milk is first boiled and then cooled down).

**Learner Profile**

**Inquirer  
Knowledgeable  
Reflective**



Grade

5

**Approaches to Learning (ATL)**

Research- Information literacy +  
Media literacy, Communication-Exchanging  
information + Literacy, Thinking - Critical  
+ Reflective

Grade 5 students started exploring Unit 2 under the Transdisciplinary Theme "How we organize ourselves" through an interesting brainstorming session followed by sharing their understanding of the term "Government" through KWL chart on the see saw app. As part of language integration the students read an online book "Grace as President" followed by reflection writing. Children collaborated to read and analyse texts on different types of governments to develop Social skills and presented their understanding before their friends. They also identified the features of democratic and non democratic government through an activity on the see saw app in which they used thinking and analytical skills. As part of Math integration they compared two types of Governments using Venn diagram.

Learner Profile  
**Inquirer**  
**Knowledgeable**  
**Reflective**



## School Events

**English Poetry Recitation competition**

Students of Grades 3-5 participated in an Intra Class Poetry Recitation Competition with 100% participation. It gave a platform to all the students to exhibit confidence as they recited their poems. They presented the poems beautifully with props.

**SOHA- Seeds of Hope and Action**

Students of Grades 4 and 5 attended an exhibition titled SEEDS OF HOPE AND ACTION- Making SDG's a reality which is a joint initiative of the SGI (Soka Gakkai International) and The Earth Charter International. The exhibition stressed on our interconnectedness with the rest of the community life and the need to broaden our sphere of compassion. It encouraged the viewers to overcome feelings of powerlessness and highlighted the fact that a single individual can initiate positive change. Ms. Arna Mathey of Grade 5 and Ms. Zaina Gupta of Grade 4 were the youngest panelists who expressed themselves in the event.



## PYP Units in Action



## Parent as Partners

**Craft Passion** Ms. Bhatia, a house maker, mother of Ms. Aiyat volunteered to take a Crafts lesson with the students of Grade 1 and incorporated the concept of shapes like triangle, cone, circle and cylinder. We appreciate and thank Ms. Bhatia for bringing in creativity for our young learners.

**Story Telling** Stories are a great medium to develop early literacy skills. Stories help develop child's brain, ability to focus, concentration, social skills and communication skills. Ms. Priyanka Gupta, mother of Ms. Sayesha volunteered to take a session with the students of Grade Kg.

**Sharing Policies** It is important that parents being very important stakeholders are aware of the various policies functional at school. A session with the parents was organized to share with them the Assessment and Homework policies which was quite interactive and suggestive.



## Guest Talks:

**Ecokaari**-Students of Grades 3-5 attended a session by the Ecokaari team. This organisation works towards making this planet a better place by refurbishing the waste plastic into useable products. It was an insightful session, where children learned about the harmful effects of plastic and ways we can reduce its usage. They were also encouraged to a part of this noble cause and will be working with this organization under the PYP social outreach programme.

