



GD GOENKA WORLD SCHOOL

Gurugram, Sohna Road
an IB and Cambridge International School

IB PYP newsletter



Message from Principal Ms. Sonali Sinha

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,

As we immerse ourselves in the festive spirit of December, I extend warm greetings. This month, the diverse achievements of our students have infused vitality into our community. I am delighted to announce the remarkable success of our recent Goenka World Model United Nations held on 1st and 2nd December. The students' dedication to global issues showcased their diplomatic skills and underscored our commitment to holistic development.

In the midst of the holiday season, let's come together to celebrate unity and goodwill.

December is not only about festivities but also a time to reflect on our shared values. I express my sincere appreciation for the hard work of our dedicated staff.

Moreover, we are thrilled to announce our membership with the International Schools Sports Organization (ISSO). Join us as we unlock new avenues for excellence in education and sports!

Wishing you a joyous New Year filled with warmth and laughter. May the new year bring prosperity and joy to each one of you.



Message from PYP Coordinator Ms. Poonam Singh

Dear Parents,

I'm excited to share a powerful story highlighting the importance of setting goals for success. Goals provide purpose and serve as the essential starting point for achieving success. Like a magnifying glass needing focus to light up paper, concentration is the key to igniting success. Consider a traveler who, at an intersection, asked an elderly man, "Where does this road take me?"

The wise elder responded, "Where do you want to go?" The traveler, uncertain, replied, "I don't know." The sage advised, "Then take any road. What difference does it make?" This holds true without a destination, any path will suffice. Enthusiasm without direction leads to frustration. Goals provide the necessary sense of direction. Let's emphasize the importance of clear goals in guiding our children's journey with purpose.

*Wishing you a very Happy New Year !!!!
Best regards*



Classroom News

Grade Nursery

This month in Grade Nursery

TD Theme: How The World Works

Central Idea: Changing seasons impact our everyday life

Key Concepts: Change, Causation, Perspective

ATL's: Communication skills, Research skills

Attributes: Knowledgeable and Inquirer



A Quick Peek into Learning:

Students began exploring the concept of seasons. They have started to discover that a year has four seasons: spring, summer, fall, and winter. Students made a weather chart to record their observations every day. Students pasted flowers on the grass drawn on a drawing sheet to depict a garden in the spring season. They learned that winter has started and why they need to wear woollen clothes. They could identify woollen clothes like woollen caps, mufflers, gloves, jackets, sweaters etc. Students collected dry leaves and made a tree for the Autumn or Fall season. They pasted cut-outs of green leaves to form a tree for the Summer season, pasted colourful flowers to form a tree for the Spring season and pasted cotton on the tree with scanty leaves for the winter season.

Classroom News

Grade KG

This month in Grade KG

TD Theme: How We Express Ourselves

Central Idea: Stories are a medium to enhance creativity and expression

LOI 2: Elements of a story

Key Concepts: Form, Connection and Perspective

ATL's: Social skills, Thinking skills

IB Learner Profile developed:

Communicators, Thinkers, Risk -Taker



A Quick Peek into Learning:

In the enchanting realm of stories, students embarked on a captivating journey over the past month. The odyssey of stories commenced with the timeless tale of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears." The excitement soared as the young students brought the tale to life through a delightful role play, showcasing their creativity and love for storytelling. Fuelling their artistic expression, the students sketched their favourite scenes from Goldilocks' escapades and were excited to present them in front of their peers. The magic continued when each student proudly presented their cherished storybooks brought from home. The exchange of these treasures became a celebration of friendship and shared tales, fostering a sense of community in the budding storytellers. The Kg learners were introduced to the concept of characters and morals. They were able to name the characters in the stories and the message conveyed by the story.



Classroom News

Grade 1

This month in Grade 1

TD Theme: How The World Works

Central Idea: All living things go through a process of change.

LOI: Living and non-living things (Form)

LOI 2: Classification of plants and animals (Causation)

Key Concepts: Form, Causation and Change

ATL's: Research skills and Thinking skills

IB Learner Profile developed: Communicators and Thinkers



A Quick Peek into Learning:

Students inquired about living and non-living things. Potted plants were placed in the class to evoke curiosity in children. Children started their inquiry by asking questions about the plants placed in the classroom and made connections with their upcoming unit. During the nature walk children looked around to see living and non-living things and had their inquiries. They listed the characteristics of living things and non-living things after a class discussion. They explored the second line of inquiry by exploring the different types of plants and their characteristics.



Classroom News

Grade 2

This month in Grade 2

TD Theme-: How We Organise Ourselves

Central Idea: Managing money helps in making responsible and informed decisions.

LOI : Money system (Change)

Currencies around the world (Form)

Related Concepts: Transformation, Differences, Opinion

ATL's : Thinking Skills(critical thinking), Self-Management Skills(state of mind- Mindfulness)

IB Learner Profile developed: Thinker, Principled, Reflective



A Quick Peek into Learning:

To delve deeper into the same they researched about the money system and currencies around the world. Being inquirers they explored the money system by making a timeline right from the barter system to the current system i.e. plastic money. To have experiential learning, students played some hands-on games in the class to experience the barter system by exchanging goods and understanding the transaction of money using fake paper money and coins. To strengthen conceptual understanding, a few more learning engagements like- needs and wants, coin caterpillar, coin rubbing, marketplace, budgeting etc. were played to experience the concept of money and to make real-time connections of buying, selling, profit and loss, addition and subtraction. To become international-minded, they researched currencies around the world. They showcased their understanding of using different mediums of their choice like- PPT, booklet, and illustrations and presented assertively to peers and teachers. It helped them in fostering self-management skills, and thinking skills and developing the IB learner attributes- Thinker, Principled.

Classroom News

Grade 3

This month in Grade 3

TD Theme: How the World Works

Central Idea: The states of matter and their properties change thus impacting its use

Lines of Inquiry :

- 1: States of matter
- 2: Effect of temperature on matter
- 3: Physical and chemical changes of matter

Concepts: Form, Connection and Change

ATL's: Research skills, Thinking skills and Communication Skills

Attributes: Thinker, Inquirer, Knowledgeable



A Quick Peek into Learning:

Under the Trans-disciplinary Theme “How the world works”, students inquired into the new unit- States of Matter. The provocation of the unit started with an empty/full jar activity which generated inquiry and students became eager to know the characteristics of each state of matter which was later recorded using a Visual Thinking Routine. Students read the book titled “Matter is everywhere” to understand the concept of “Form” related to solids, liquids and gases. The children collaboratively completed an activity using clay, showing the molecular arrangement in solid, liquid and gas. They read books on “Storyweaver” and watched videos, which further enhanced their knowledge. They prepared a Fact wheel showing the properties of different states of matter.

Classroom News

Grade 4

This month in Grade 4

TD Theme: Who We Are

Central Idea: Interdependence between human body systems contributes to health and survival.

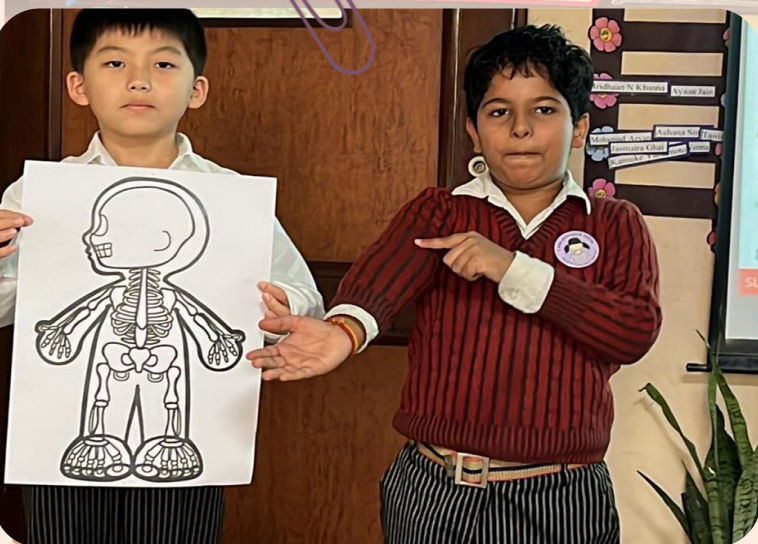
Lines of Inquiry:

LOI 1 - Functions of different body systems

Key Concepts- Function, Connection and Responsibility

ATL's developed: - Research Skills (Information literacy skills), Thinking Skills (Reflection), Communication (Exchanging information skills)

IB Learner Profiles developed- Inquirer, Knowledgeable and Reflective



A Quick Peek into Learning:

Under the Trans-disciplinary theme- Who we are, the students inquired into the unit- “Human Body Systems” through an interesting provocation and their prior understanding of the functions of various body organs. Students actively participated in “Flip the classroom engagement” where they enthusiastically researched various body systems and further presented them to their peers with confidence. Reading e-book resources related to the unit enhanced their inquiry-based learning of the unit.

Classroom News

Grade 5

This month in Grade 5

TD Theme: How the World Works

Central Idea: Energy may be converted from one form to another and needs to be conserved

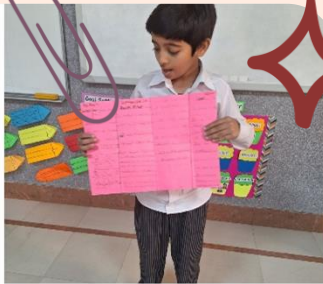
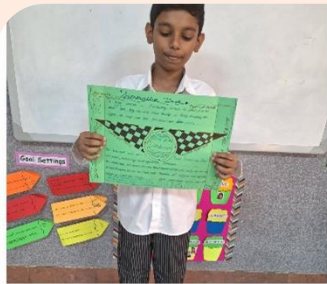
Lines of Inquiry:

1. Forms of energy (Form)
2. Transformation of energy (Change)
3. Conservation of energy (Responsibility)

Key Concepts- Form, Change, Responsibility

ATL's developed: - Research (Information-literacy skills), Thinking(creative thinking)

IB Learner Profiles developed- Inquirer, knowledgeable, Caring



A Quick Peek into Learning:

The unit started by observing a few items like a torch, battery toy car, mike... etc. They were asked to find out common things about these items and they rightly answered Energy and Power. They made a KWLH chart to write their prior knowledge about energy. The students explored various types of energy by reading books, and passages, and watching videos followed by writing strong points using a Visual Thinking Routine diagram. They segregated renewable and non-renewable forms of energy in the T chart. As part of maths integration, they researched and collected information about the first five countries using hydro energy the most, in the form of a bar graph. They used their comprehension skills to read and understand comprehension passages related to energy.



Specialist Subjects



ART

Nursery- To boost creativity, fine motor and hand-eye coordination skills learners continued with the tear and paste activity. Learners also learned how to draw using circles. They drew different animals, flowers, and objects using just circles.

K.G- Learners learnt to draw a “pony” step by step whilst promoting creativity, imagination and fine motor skills. They were encouraged to add details to the background to convey a story.

Grade 1- Learners were engaged to make their own Diwali Paper Lanterns. The beautiful coloured papers hanging below this lantern made it look even prettier. Making these lanterns boosted their artistic skills, made them confident and polished their crafting skills.

Grade 2- A basic introduction to the artist Romero Britto focussed on Line, Pattern, Repetition and Rhythm. Learners observed Romero Britto’s art to create artist-inspired landscapes using bright colours.

Grade 3- Students were shown the work of inspiring op artists, and learners were attracted to the bold patterns and rhythm created through their work. They learnt how to make Op Art, in an abstract style of art based on creating optical illusions. Learners used wiggly lines to create patterns to form an optical illusion which plays tricks with the eyes. They followed the instructions to create a three-dimensional form. They developed artistic skills by blending two to more colours successfully to create their optical illusion.

Grade 4- Learners explored the work of American artist Peter Thorpe who paints abstract space pictures. They created artist-inspired Space Art experimenting with different techniques and a variety of media; collage, oil pastels, markers, colour pencils etc. keeping emphasis on colour, shape and final layout of their composition.

Grade 5- Using simple shapes and rhythmic lines to manipulate the patterns, learners learned to create op art illusion towers. They were allowed to experiment with how to manipulate space to create the illusion of movement.





Specialist Subjects

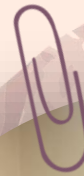
Social Emotional Learning

“Kindness is an easy way to make a connection. It’s a simple but powerful way to build a bridge between hearts.”

Throughout the month, students engaged in various acts of kindness, from small gestures to impactful initiatives. A kindness tree activity was organised to encourage students to share compliments and express gratitude. Students made a kindness chain and hidden messages for their loved ones by writing kind notes on a paper link. Activities highlighted the significance of kindness, inspiring everyone to carry the spirit beyond the month.

Session on Puberty :

The PYP counselor, in an interactive session with Grade 5 girls, delved into the nuances of puberty. The session elucidated the various physical and mental shifts driven by hormonal changes during adolescence. The primary focus was to impart an understanding of the biological life cycle, offering insights into its significance and causes. By dispelling misconceptions and fostering open conversations, this session aimed to guide our young girls through a healthy and informed biological life cycle.





Specialist Subjects

SPORTS

It all starts with play-

Students are busy with sports day practice in which a variety of activities like field and track events, drills, march past, and fun races focusing on different skills and fitness levels. Students are motivated and encouraged to give their best effort to foster a team spirit.



Specialist Subjects

HINDI

Students of **Grade 1** were introduced to the 'इ' maatra sound, sign and symbol followed by listening, reading and writing the related maatra words and simple sentences. They are learning a poem 'पेड़ लगाओ, पेड़ लगाओ'. They also learnt about the story behind the Diwali celebration through YouTube video as unit integration followed by verbal discussion



Students of **Grade 2** were introduced to the 'औ' maatra sound, sign and symbol which was followed by listening, reading and writing the related maatra words and simple sentences and sentence stretching. They also learnt about the sound and symbol of 'अं' maatra through a story. Also, they have been introduced with 'Gender' nouns.



Grade 3 students explored the "form and Change" concept of 'Ling' and 'Tenses.' Also, they developed reading skills through Story reading.

Grade 4 students learnt the concept 'Form and Function' of 'Visheshan' and 'Pryayvachi'. They read a variety of storybooks. Also, they were assessed on their understanding of 'Visheshan'.



Students of **Grade 5** learnt the concepts 'Form and Function' of 'Visheshan, Visheshya and its Bhedh' and 'Types of Kriya'. Also, they had a quiz on 'Types of Kriya'. Students were assessed on their understanding of 'Visheshan', They did Reading comprehension followed by question answers and sentence formation.

Specialist Subjects

DANCE

NUR-KG

Students from grade nursery and Kg dived into the world of action-based poems and explored the world of rhythm and action.

GRADE 1-3

Students enthusiastically embraced the stage performance during the assembly on the Central Idea- Celebration and Traditions.

GRADE 4&5

Students explored 'Performing Arts' as a means of self-expression and collaboration. They explored the different folk dances of India followed by a discussion on 'Dance as a means to raise awareness about social issues'.



School Events

Grade 5 Transition Meeting

The CLS coordinator briefed the Grade 5 students and parents about the CLS curriculum to enable a smooth transition from PYP to CLS. This session took place on two different days for students and parents. During the session, the curriculum of CLS was shared with them. In the open forum, the CLS Coordinator answered the queries raised by students and parents.



School Events



Grade 5 Exhibition Meeting

Grade 5 parents were invited to interact with grade 5 teachers and the Head of the Programme to map the SDGs with the exhibition's Trans-disciplinary Theme "Where we are in place and time". Grade 5 team teachers explained the whole process of the PYP exhibition to the parents which was followed by regrouping them and engaging them in the task designed for them. Each group discussed and listed down various ideas and strategies to teach the selected SDGs. It was a fruitful session where the parents were fully engaged and involved and some parents volunteered to help the mentors and students in their exhibition journey.



School Events



Children's Day

Celebrating International Children's Day was a delightful occasion filled with joy, laughter, and endless smiles. It brought our community together to cherish the spirit of childhood. Teachers thoughtfully curated some performances for the children.





School Events

Sports Day

Sports day is the most awaited event both for students and parents. Students of grades Nursery-5 put up some dazzling displays of athleticism, teamwork and school spirit on the PYP Sports Day. It was a day which reflected the essence of unity, endurance, learning and sportsmanship. Students not only showcased their physical prowess but also their mental and physical well being.

The chief guest Ms. Laura Traets, who is a Bulgarian rhythmic gymnast and 2020 Olympic champion graced the occasion.



School Events

Christmas Carnival

Christmas is the festival which inspires the spirit of sharing and caring. A special Christmas carnival was held in the school ground. The beautifully adorned campus and students donning Santa caps added to the festive mood. Students enjoyed the games, rides and the scrumptious food at the various stalls put up by students of senior grades. The carnival was reflective of the efforts put in by the Goenkans.

It was a joyous gathering at GDGWS, strengthening bonds of affection and togetherness.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





School Events

Trip to Kidzania

Students of Grades Nursery to 2 visited KidZania on 20th December, 2023. Kidzania is an interactive indoor theme park that empowers, inspires & educates kids through real-life activities. The hospitable environment allowed the children to grow and develop their communication, analytical, and decision-making skills. Children scouted many opportunities to assume the role they always desired. They had a great time exploring different activities.



School Events

Founders Day

The 20th Founders Day celebration was a harmonious blend of artistic expressions, featuring a captivating performance by our school band on Coldplay's 'A Sky Full of Stars.' Our talented dancers and artists showcased their skills, creating memorable visuals that paid homage to our founders and the evolution of our institution.

The festivities resonated with the invincible spirit of Goenkans, emphasizing pride, commitment, and excellence.

