



December Events

- 5th December- Stage Rehearsal took place for the End of the Year Production (EYP)
- 6th December – End of the Year Production (EYP) was held at Science City Auditorium
- 7th December - Junior Choir performed at St. Paul's Cathedral
- 9th December – National WIZ Spell Bee Level 1 for Grades 1-5
- 10th December – Birla Institute of Technological Museum visit Grades Upper Nursery, 1 and 2
- 11th December - Birla Institute of Technological Museum visit Grades 3-5
- 16th December- Distribution of Report Cards for Grade Pre Nursery to 5.
- 17th December - Prize Distribution
- 19th December- Last working day for students
- 20th December - Last working day for teachers



Clean Air... Healthy Air

As a step to ensure clean and healthy environment for our students, **Air Purifiers** have been installed in each class room from the Primary to the Junior Sections of Calcutta International School.

The system ensures to pull the air in the class room through a series of filters that removes harmful airborne particles like dust, pollen and bacteria. The air purifier then circulates the purified air back into the room. This process repeats itself several times an hour, keeping the class room environment clean and healthy.

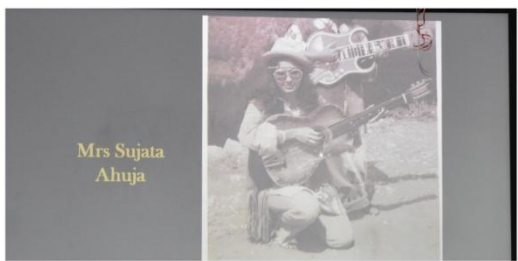


Children go where there is excitement and they stay where there is love. At Calcutta International School, children are the heart line of the institution and it is them who make this place what it is.



Like every year, on the 14th of November Children's Day was celebrated in the Junior Section of CIS with great enthusiasm. Beautifully decorated red and blue balloons welcomed the students in the school atrium and the class room door on that day. The students read messages on the soft boards as they walked down the corridors. The teachers of the Primary and the Junior Sections got together to put up a fun filled show in the AVR, singing and dancing with the little ones. Going down the memory lane, the students were shown photographs of their teachers during their school days. They were excited and happy to participate in this guessing game and identifying the dear teachers.

Later, children were given a treat of pizza, juice and chocolate. Some children played outdoors with their teachers while others watched movies or sang songs along with their teachers indoors. Finally, they went home with a personalized goody bag feeling very happy. It was indeed a memorable day which the children would cherish for long time to come.





Coffee Meet



As we are nearing the end of Term 1, the Coffee Meets with parents for Grades Pre-Nursery to 5 were held in the month of November 2019. Parents were introduced to the Section Head, Heads of Departments and Subject Coordinators by Mrs Pratima Nayar, Principal Junior School.

The coffee meets were a good platform to interact with parents where detailed discussions were held with reference to the curriculum, facilities and other school related activities. Certain concerns raised and suggestions given by parents are being looked into and addressed by the school authorities.

Mrs. Nayar thanked all parents who were present, for taking time out of their busy schedules on weekdays and making these Coffee Meets a success.



Grade: Pre - Nursery



Mrs. Nayar – Principal Junior School,
Mrs. Majumdar – Section Head Primary
Department, Mrs. Banerjee – Subject
Coordinator, Mathematics



Grade: Nursery



Grades: Upper Nursery



Grade: 1



From left to right: Mrs. Choudhary – Section Head Junior Department, Subject Coordinators – Mrs. Banerjee, Mrs. Ray, Mrs. Mukherjee, Mrs. Ahuja and Mr. Ghosh



Grade: 2



Grade: 3



Grade 4



Grade 5



Agastya Chanda of 3A appeared for the First Grade Piano ABRSM (Royal School of Music) Exam on 20th November, 2019. We are proud to share that he has scored 82% with a Merit Rank.

CIS Congratulates Kanishk Anand of Class 5 for winning an Award in the MakersLoft Tinker Fest in the category 3D Doodling, in a live competition.

We are extremely proud of his achievement.



ACHIEVEMENT

Junior Citizens

The students of classes 3 and 4 are on a mission to save water and electricity in school. This idea was initiated by the Science Coordinator of Junior School Mrs. Sujata Ahuja, to instill an awareness of building a more sustainable environment through small steps. The students of class 3 each week by rotation take the responsibility to check if there are any leakages in the wash rooms of the first floor. They also check and turn off taps, in case they find them on when not in use. These children are called the **Water Warriors**. The students of class 4 are also making a conscious effort to go and check if any lights, fans or A. C. are left on when there are no occupants in a class. They also urge the students to turn off lights during the short and long break. They are called the **Energy Savers**. The effort is to increase the mindfulness of the school community to effectively use and conserve energy.

Plantation Drive

The students of class 4 sowed the seeds of cucumber, mustard, spinach, bitter gourd, ridge gourd during the plantation drive in July. They observed how seeds germinated. This helped them to experience and make powerful, effective, connections between theory and practicals. The young and enthusiastic learners made frequent visits to the school garden, which enabled them to relate with and understand clearly the parts of a flower, pollination, life cycle of flowering plant and seed dispersal.





Learning beyond the Classroom.

In an initiative to make the learning process more real and exciting for our young learners, teachers of Pre Nursery planned an array of outdoor activities to help students develop their motor skills, cognitive abilities and application skills.

Outdoor play is essential as it provides an opportunity for children to be aware of their environment, engage themselves in a fun way as well as help in developing soft skills such as team work and leadership.

It's the time of the year to have **FUN in the SUN!**



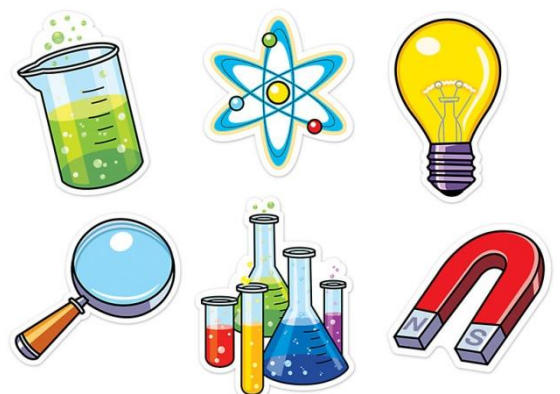
Little Scientists on the Go!



The children of Nursery explored and discovered interesting facts through experiments. They saw how “Static Electricity” is formed with a balloon and papers, they experienced “Stratification” of colours with skittles and water and they also observed the whole process of the “Water cycle” with keen interest.



The children visited the **Science Laboratory** for the first time to watch ice melting into water with heat. The water then became water vapour, cooled down and turned into small droplets of water again. The process was explained to the children by Ms. S Ahuja, the Science coordinator of the Junior Department. She explained to them in a very simple language how rain occurs.



It's Time to Throw Ball



Junior School Inter house throw ball match was organized in the month of November, between the students of classes 3, 4 and 5. The finals were held on the 11th and 18th of November.

The Yellow House boys beat the Green House boys – The participants were Arjun Kejriwal, Yuvan Pawa, Kaavin Raja, Rajveer Surana, Divit Jain, Yash Somani, Aryan Artur Kol, Yae Jun Park, Jinay Whora, Ragghav Dabriwal, Rudransh Kathotia, Jagrat Hada, Viraj Chakrabarti, Ebrahim Hasnain, Logan Wu, Vansh Vir Marda, Aryan Tibrewal, Anvay Garodia



The Yellow House girls beat the Red House girls – The participants were Rajanya Deb, Parthvi Kandoi, Dhriti Agarwalla, Ava Xiu Wu, Anoushka Shanti Ganguli, Saisha Jain, Alveena Fatima Jawade, Kaashvi Somani, Manasvi Sharma, Shivika Johri, Eleena Khan, Sanjana Shaw, Aisha Kothari, Shivani Bhunia, Vrinda Mazumdar, Devanshee Ruia, Krishnaangi Poddar, Dhruvanshi Ray

Seminar on New Age Career Options for Students



A discussion on ‘**New Age Career Options for Students**’ as part of the **Times NIE Principals’ Seminar** in association with VIT University, Vellore was held on 23rd Nov 2019 at The Marriot Hotel Kolkata. The seminar was attended by Mrs Sharmila Majumdar and Mrs Sukanya Singhal. While a plethora of options are available for today’s students to pursue different academic and career choices, the collaborative information on career choices are limited.

The seminar aimed at enriching the knowledge base, getting information on career options to facilitate a suitable choice for a career path that suits the interests, talents and aptitude of the students.

Times NIE provided a platform for deliberations and information exchange, enabling a well-informed choice. The eminent panellists invited to shed light on some career options were Ashoke Vishwanathan, Bengali filmmaker and theatre personality, Mir Afsar Ali, radio jockey, television anchor, singer, comedian and actor and Utpal Chatterjee, journalist and former sheriff of Kolkata. They stressed on nurturing talent and providing proper guidance to students along with hands on experience. They also felt that it is imperative to encourage students in choosing a career option without bias and motivating them to follow their passion. Mr Utpal Chatterjee went further and stressed on urging the students to contribute to the future of their country that has given them opportunities to become successful careerists.





5th CII School Excellence Conclave on Innovating Education and Educating Innovation



Mrs Pratima Nayar, Mrs Sushmita Ray, Mrs Sujata Ahuja and Mrs Antara Banerjee attended the 5th CII School Excellence Conclave on Innovating Education and Educating Innovation on the 23rd November 2019 at The Vivanta.

It was a good exposure. The Conclave had four sessions.

- The **first session** was a panel discussion on **Schools at Crossroads of Innovation.**
- The **second session** was about **Innovative Practices for Achieving with Adversities.**
- The **third session** was on **Leveraging Innovation in Schools.**
- The **last session** which was very interesting was on **Master Class on Innovating Education: the Way Forward** by: **Dr A Senthil Kumaran**, Chief Confluencer.

We were happy to learn that innovation is an important aspect of our curriculum at CIS and we are always trying to collaborate with other subjects in our endeavour to engage the learners to make them future ready.



Workshop



On Saturday, 16th of November, Mrs. Urmita Das and Ms Amanda DuPratt attended a workshop organised by Google called Google CS First, at Don Bosco School, Park Circus. The workshop was conducted by Parth Nigam, an employee of Google, who had flown in from Bengaluru.

CS First is a flagship education program introduced by Google for classes 4-8 which is designed to introduce programming and computer science to students in a collaborative and creative environment. It is a free instructional video based on online curriculum built, designed on the pillars of imparting computational thinking and making kids ready for the future through 21st century skills.

This program, Scratch developed by MIT will help the students to build interest in technology, creativity, computational thinking, problem solving skills and the courage to try new things.

Mrs. Gargi Sinha Mitra attended a two-day National Conference on “Independent Living and Sustainable Development of Persons with Disabilities” on 22nd and 23rd November 2019



. It was organized by the National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities at the Regional Centre Kolkata under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India. It was a great opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with experts and colleague members of the field.

Workshop

It takes a variety of experiences for children to develop a full understanding of number skills that will grow into more advanced number-related concepts. Mrs. Gargi Sinha Mitra, Special Educator conducted a workshop, on the 21st of November on Pre-number skills, for the Mathematics teachers of Junior school. She shared the principles and strategies to be followed for a strong base of pre-number skills which leads to larger numbers, operations, basic facts and computation.

Children with Special Needs in CIS follow the same curriculum as their peers. However, they face certain barriers to examination due to their learning and other associated disabilities as stated in their diagnostic reports. Access Arrangements are pre-examination arrangements that allow the students to access the assessment and remove unnecessary barriers, without changing the demands of the assessment (Cambridge Handbook, 2020 International). These Access Arrangements for example extra time, a prompter to keep the student focussed on the task, to name a few are given to the students as stated in the diagnostic report. Mrs. Gargi Sinha Mitra addressed all the teachers of Junior School and explained the Access Arrangements as stated by the Cambridge Board.





Our Children: Our Superheroes...

***“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.” —
Frederick Douglass,***

Childhood is meant to be magical! Children are born as blank slates, and what we expose them to, becomes what they imbibe, learn and eventually become.

“It’s easy to forget that notions of childhood have changed radically over the years—and not all for the better”, says Steven Mintz, a history professor at the University of Texas at Austin.

Today, children and adolescents have less free, unstructured, unsupervised time than their predecessors. Parents are putting their kids much more into adult-structured, adult-supervised activities than they did in the past. We often talk about ‘Helicopter parenting’, having its downside.

Kids spend more time, on a screen compared to our childhood which was free, unstructured, outdoor play. That’s a loss, and it’s made it harder for kids to cut the umbilical cord. It’s made it harder to establish an independent identity. It’s made it harder for kids to chart an independent path in life.

The irony of life is that the great challenge for parents is to do the hardest thing of all, and that is to grant your child the freedom to be a child.

Then, let me ask are we really allowing our children the freedom to be a child?



Felicitatation



Calcutta International School is proud to share that Mrs. Pratima Nayar has been awarded the **Principal of the Year 2019 – Certificate of Honor** for her admirable contribution in the field by Global Gurus, at a prestigious ceremony in New Delhi on the 29th of the November.

Mrs. Pratima Nayar was invited to the 20th Children's Annual Educational and Cultural celebration of **Hope Foundation Kolkata** at Nazrul Manch on the 8th of November 2019.

Honorable Founder Director, **Ms. Maureen Forrest** of Hope Foundation, Kolkata graced the occasion accompanied by respected dignitaries from various countries and Government officials from West Bengal.

Mrs. Nayar was felicitated for her remarkable contribution in school's social responsibility in association with Hope Foundation Kolkata.



Mrs. Nayar, Principal Junior School and Mrs. Soumita Karmakar ECA Coordinator attended the felicitation program for **DAAN UTSAV** hosted by **Hope Foundation Kolkata** on the 15th of November at Tollygunj Club. The students of Grades 3 to 5 contributed new clothes to their children during the festive season.

The **Hope Foundation Kolkata** acknowledged Calcutta International School for being a part of **Daan Utsav 2019**. Mrs. Nayar received the certificate of recognition on behalf of the school.





WE WISH YOU

a very

MERRY

CHRISTMAS

AND

Happy New Year



Editorial Team



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