



CALCUTTA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2020 ISSUE



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Welcome Back!

Dr Munmun Nath, Principal, Senior School

The saying “change is the only constant” has never been so evident as now, in this unprecedented situation that we are in. I must congratulate all the students for the agility they have shown to adapt to the change and their patience in the challenging time. We know that it has been a trying time for them - the pandemic, the lockdown, no travelling. However, this new normal has also taught us many lessons of life. You cannot depend on one exam and you cannot take things for granted. It is a constant struggle.

Nothing in my lifetime has ever caused the world to shut down. The impact of the pandemic was so swift and widespread that we were forced to learn new lessons and rediscover the value of some old ones. We have all upskilled ourselves and found alternative ways. We have learnt what is really important for us. Schools have never had disruption like this ever before but unlike in the past, now we have the ability to continue education, thanks to the technological advancement, resilience of the teachers and the students and the continual support from the parents. . There was no stopping for us and the learning continued. Although we are living in an uncertain environment, with your support and cooperation, we would make it an enriching experience for everyone. The initiatives and work go beyond the studies. We have witnessed students doing some wonderful projects and community service during the lock down. I was very happy to see that many students came forward and helped people in the hour of crisis.

Let that willingness to serve be the guiding star as we enter the new academic session, albeit virtually. New class, new session, new hope, new resolutions and new dreams. Education online would mean more responsibility and self-directed learning. It will be adapting to new challenges. I am confident, in our time apart, we have grown closer, in our shared goal and compassion.

There has been an internal restructuring of SEN, Mental well-being, placement and exam set ups under CEO for the whole school.

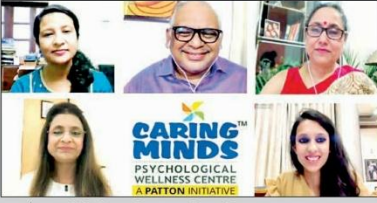
We have shortened the timetable to six lessons with two short breaks in between keeping in mind not to extend the screen time for the students. We will slowly collaborate and incorporate your views in a mutually acceptable manner.

Looking forward to a great start.

All the best for the new session.

ACHIEVEMENTS

মনের জানালা



বর্তমান পরিস্থিতিতে কিশোর-কিশোরীদের মধ্যে বাড়ছে নানা দৃষ্টিভঙ্গি আর মানসিক বিষণ্ণতা। কীভাবে এর থেকে মুক্তি সম্ভব? একটি অনলাইন আলোচনায় জানালেন মনোবিদ তথা 'কেয়ারিং মাইন্ডস'-এর প্রতিষ্ঠাতা মিনু বুধিয়া, মনোরোগ বিশেষজ্ঞ ডাঃ প্রথমা চৌধুরি, ক্যালকাটা ইন্টারন্যাশনাল স্কুলের অধ্যক্ষা মুনমুন নাথ, সাউথ সিটি ইন্টারন্যাশনাল স্কুলের অধ্যক্ষ জন অ্যান্ড্রু বাগুল প্রমুখ। শিরোনাম: 'মেটাল হেলথ ৩৬০: হোয়াট ইজ ইয়োর টিন থিংকিং?' কীভাবে কমবয়সীরা মানসিক রোগের শিকার হচ্ছে, আলোচনায় উঠে আসে সে-তথ্যই। সেই সঙ্গে দেখানো হয় মন্ত্রির দিশাও। অন্তর্গতের আয়োজক ছিল 'কেয়ারিং মাইন্ডস'। পরিচালনায় ছিলেন প্রিয়ম বুধিয়া।

Dr Munmun Nath was one of the esteemed panellists in a discussion titled "Mental Health 360: What is your teen thinking?"

In the wake of the current situation, Caring Minds Wellness Centre organised a virtual panel discussion on the effect of the pandemic and lockdown on the mental well-being of the teenagers.

The session was attended by Dr Munmun Nath, Mr John Andrew Bagul, Principal of South City International School, renowned psychologist Ms Minu Budhia and Mental Health Specialist Dr Prathama Choudhury.

DR. MUNMUN NATH
SENIOR PRINCIPAL
CALCUTTA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
KOLKATA

Dr Munmun Nath was also invited for two more panel discussions.

On 10th June she was a part of the top educators from all over India, discussing about Sports: More than just a Recreation.

On 16th June, she attended another discussion pertaining to The Future of Education: 21st Century Skills.

EMINENT EDUCATORS' COLLOQUIUM
AGENDA SETTING FOR LEADERSHIP
THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION
21ST CENTURY SKILLS
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

MS. RICH SHARMA
PRINCIPAL
SANGHVI SCHOOLS
MUMBAI

DR. SKAND BALI
PRINCIPAL
THE EVERGREEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HYDRABAD

MS. NOORAIN FAZAL
MANAGING TRUSTEE & CO-FOUNDER
PROGRESS EDUCARE (PUNE)

DR. MUNMUN NATH
PRINCIPAL
CALCUTTA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
KOLKATA

MS. PADMINI SAMBASIVAM
PRINCIPAL
WILSON GEMS SCHOOL, CHENNAI

MR. DILIP TIWARI
FOUNDER & DIRECTOR
EDUCATION WORLD & PARENTS' MEET

PROFESSOR (DR.) C. RAJ KUMAR
VICE CHANCELLOR
OF ANDRA AGRICULTURE UNIVERSITY
ELURU, AP

ACCELERATOR
19th JUN 6:00 PM
Registration: <https://bit.ly/2Ae4DdE> | Contact: C. 893 6110 704 | rocksp@ppl.in

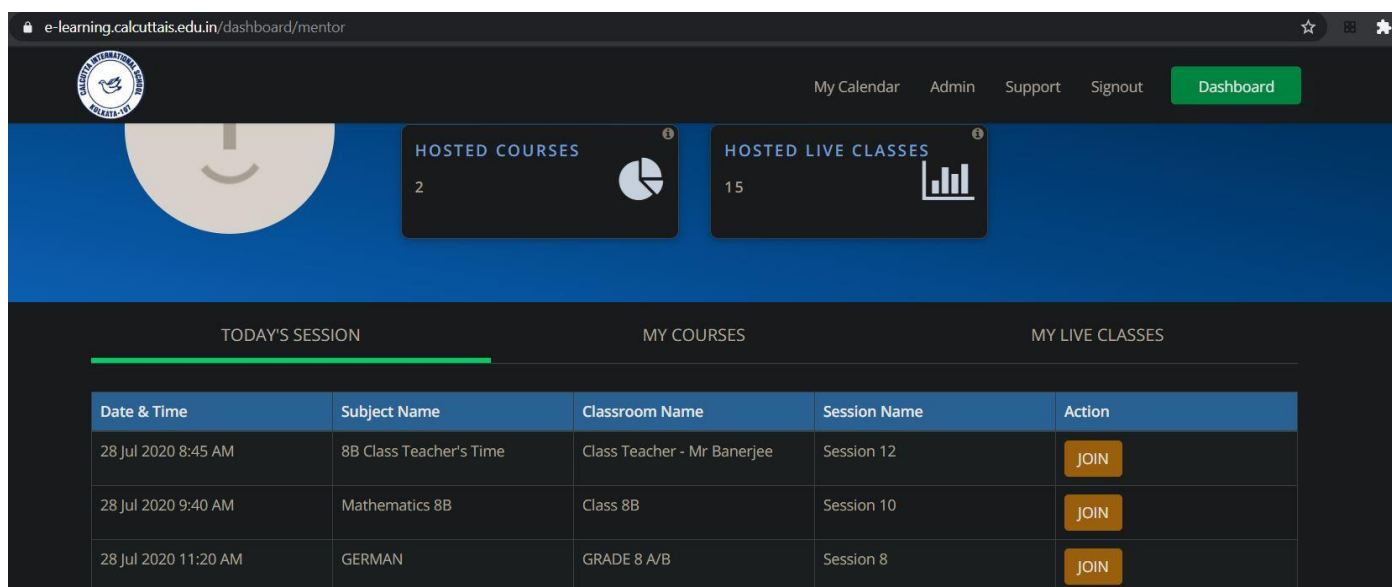
THE DIANA AWARD
YOUNG PEOPLE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
#2020DIANA AWARDS

Anjali Surana was awarded the prestigious Diana Awards 2020 for the Community Service she has done through her Organisation FullStop.

This Award acknowledges the young people who have the passion and the heart to change the world.

Prince Harry posted a congratulatory message for the winners of this award.

TEACHING AND LEARNING: VIRTUAL MODE



The new Learning Management System (LMS): E-Learning at CIS was implemented in this academic session for a more streamlined and organised teaching and learning process.

Learning Management System (LMS) is a software application for administration, documentation, tracking, reporting and delivery of Educational Information

Taking into account the current scenario where we are unable to meet our students physically, CIS decided to incorporate an LMS for continuing the teaching- learning process comfortably.

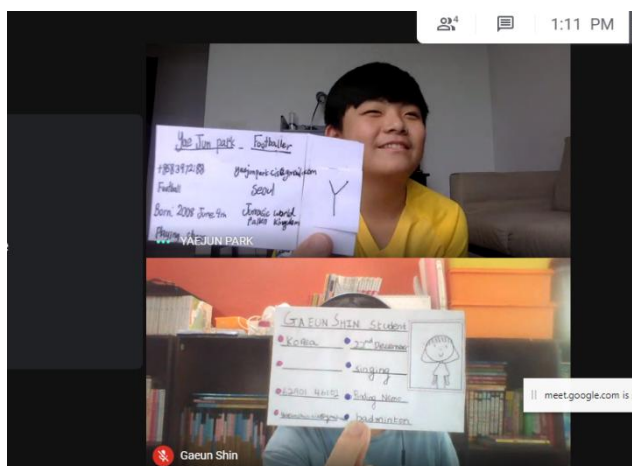
CIS prides itself as one of the few schools in the city which has implemented an LMS in their school system for keeping all aspects of teaching learning under one umbrella. An LMS also takes into consideration the security of our students while in an online setting. Access through a single login generated by the LMS, ensures that only the students and teachers enrolled in the platform are able to use it. This ensures that data of students or teachers is not mishandled by anyone out of our school system. The possibility of any outsider entering the system is nil, therefore enabling the students and the teachers to optimise the time and keep the learning process safe and smooth.

To add to its features, there is transparency in the log in time stamps of all students and teachers of all classes.

Teachers attended multiple training sessions in order to understand the system such that they were ready before the school reopened.

For the future, we are looking at the possibility of bringing assessment through the LMS.

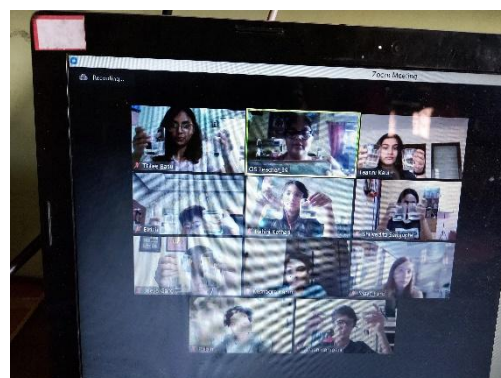
At CIS, we have always kept the students' interest at the heart of everything. We are happy to announce that this endeavour has started to show promise and we are helpful that this platform will allow the teachers and the students to work in a conducive learning environment.



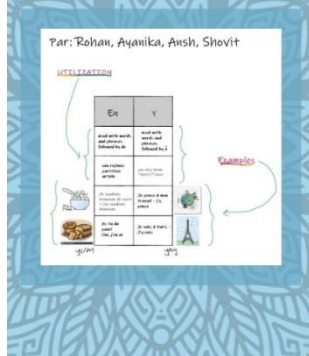
Grade 6B students made Business Cards using a template as a part of Interview Skills and Communication Skills under the supervision of their English teacher Ms Upasana Saraswati

Biology practical on Osmosis in 9B.

Even though the students could not be in the laboratory, they had all the ingredients ready at home and they participated in the practical class through LMS, with the instruction of their Biology teacher Dr Runa Ghosh Auddy.



Peer Teaching

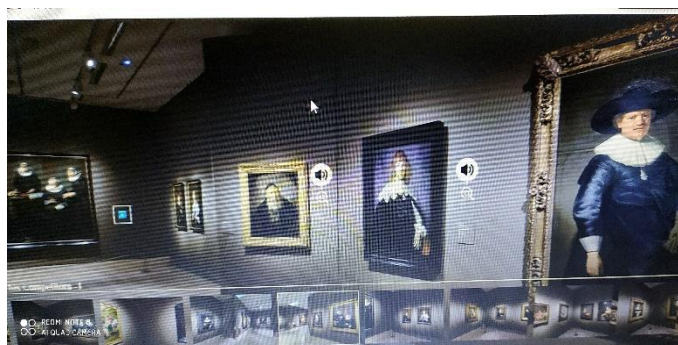
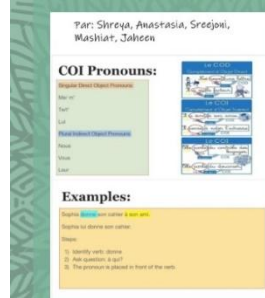


Grade 10 French Projects.

The students participated in a peer - teaching activity under the guidance of their French teacher Ms Arpita Dutta.

They focused on some grammatical aspects of the French Language.

Peer Teaching



Mr Subrata Ghosh organised a virtual tour for the Grade 9 Art & Design students to the museum where the masterpieces of great artist Rembrandt and his contemporaries from the Baroque period are exhibited

Biology teacher Ms Debleena Gupta used Foldit and Geniverse platforms in her AS-Level and IBDP Year 2 Biology class to conduct a Game-Based Learning to teach various concepts such as protein folding problems and genetic diseases.

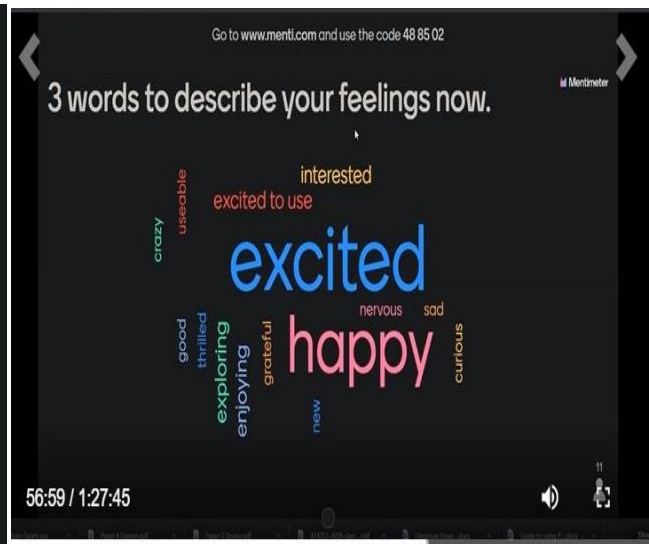
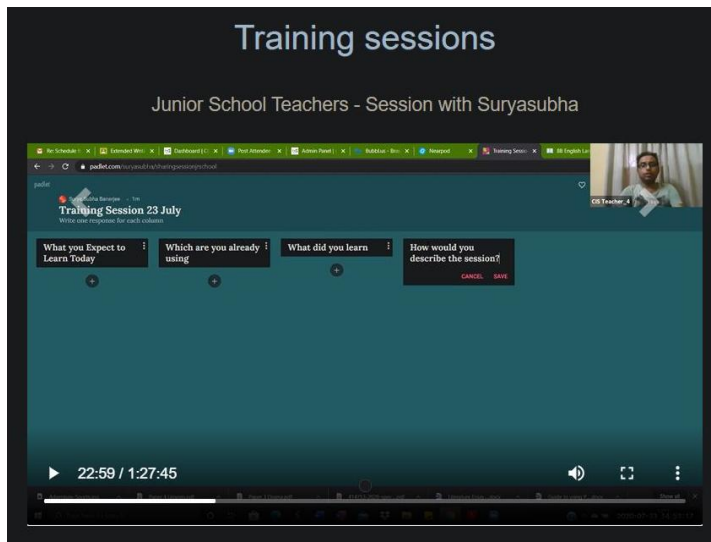
VIRTUAL ORIENTATION TO THE NEW SESSION



The Academic year 2020 - 21 commenced at a time when India along with rest of the world is still reeling under the COVID 19 pandemic. Schools are physically closed as governments and common people are desperately trying to break the chain of the deadly virus and bring back safety. In such a scenario, CIS opened for the new session virtually. Adapting to the “new normal”, CIS organized this year’s Parents & Students Orientation online. The session started off with our CEO Mr. Ayan Pal and our Senior School Principal Dr. Munmun Nath welcoming the students and parents to the new academic year and highlighting the close cooperation that will be required amongst all stake holders in these unprecedented times. Our Section Heads, Mrs. Sharmila Mukerjee of Middle Section and Mrs. Anusuya Paul of Senior Section clearly laid out the expectations that the school would have from the students in this novel scenario. Class Teachers introduced themselves and also the teachers who would be teaching the respective classes. It must be said, that CIS’s maiden attempt to hold Online Orientation went off well and was widely appreciated by all.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEACHERS: IN-HOUSE TRAINING AND SHARING OF GOOD PRACTICES

*“Collaboration allows teachers to capture each other’s
fund of Collective Intelligence”
- Mike Schmoker*



In this unprecedented circumstance, the teaching fraternity at CIS has displayed enormous resilience and have learned innumerable new skills and studied about different tools and platforms that enable the teachers to engage the students better in the classroom.

Apart from attending various webinars, the teachers also shared their teaching practices with their colleagues and thereby enabling them to learn about various tools and platforms that ensure engagement of the students and effective learning in on-line classes.

Biology teacher, Mrs Debleena Gupta conducted a session on Inquiry-Based learning where she mapped the Cambridge Teaching beliefs and structures in the 5E Teaching framework and also shared how, in the new situation, we can have more engaging and meaningful learning activities designed for the learners.

English teacher, Mr Surya Subha Banerjee conducted a session on Assessment for Learning (AFL) where he shared the various methods of incorporating AFL in a lesson and also guided the teachers through the process of designing effective rubrics for various assessments.

Mr Banerjee also had a session with the teachers of the Junior School where he shared with them different tools to bring in an element of novelty in the teaching process to ensure more engagement of the students. The platforms he got them introduced to were padlet, mentimeter, bubbl.us and others.

CIS FAMILY IS GROWING: WELCOME NEW TEACHERS



Ms Kusumika Mita, English Language and Literature

After graduating from Loreto College, Kolkata, Ms. Mitra obtained a post-graduate degree in English from Christ University in Bangalore. She has also completed MPhil, specialising in Culture Studies and Graphic Novel. She has taught in institutions such as La Martiniere for Boys, Ashoke Hall Group of Schools and DPS Newtown among others. She loves reading and engaging in meaningful conversation.

Mrs Manideepa Ray Chaudhuri , Mathematics

Ms. Ray Chaudhuri completed her B.E. Electrical Engineering and worked as a Systems Engineer in a private firm in Delhi for a couple of years. Thereafter she moved to the United States where she was engaged in the capacity of a science teacher in Elementary and Middle schools in Kansas City and Hartford, Connecticut. On her return to India she continued with her passion for teaching. She also helps underprivileged students from various parts of the city and offers them guidance in Maths and Science.



Mr Sk. Saidul Rahaman, Mathematics

Mr Rahaman has obtained a Masters in Applied Mathematics and completed his Masters in Education as well. He has the experience in teaching students across different education boards – both national and international. He has taught the Cambridge Mathematics curriculum for a number of years.

Ms Udit Sarkar, Geography

Ms. Sarkar completed her Masters in Geography. Her interest lies in exploring different kinds of art and she is a trained classical dancer in Kathak and loves performing on stage. Being a student of Geomorphology, she believes in exploring varied terrains which help her get a better idea of the subject. She has a strong affinity towards mountains and nature because she believes that nature has its own way of guiding us in life.





Ms Arpita Gomes, History

Ms. Gomes holds a Graduation and a Master's degree from Presidency University and is currently pursuing her B.Ed final semester from St Xavier's College Kolkata. She has a knack for teaching and has always found ways to engage herself in various activities related to teaching. She is also interested in community-based activities and devotes a lot of her time to the cause.

Ms Bidisha Mukherjee, Geography

Ms. Mukherjee worked as a Geography teacher in Good Shepherd International School in Ooty. She handled both national and international curriculum. She loves travelling to different places, enjoy painting, dancing and singing in her free time.



COMMUNITY SERVICE DURING LOCKDOWN BY OUR STUDENTS



CIS Students put up 6 Donation Stops across Kolkata to collect relief materials for the people in the Sunderbans, affected by the deadly Amphan Cyclone.

Ipsita Maity of AS level donated Masks and PPE kits to the medical practitioners in as a part of her ongoing support for the frontline workers during this pandemic.

Aroni Das of Grade 9 donated to Bharat Sevashram Sangha's Amphan Relief fund to aide those in need after the Amphan Cyclone.