



# Parent Newsletter

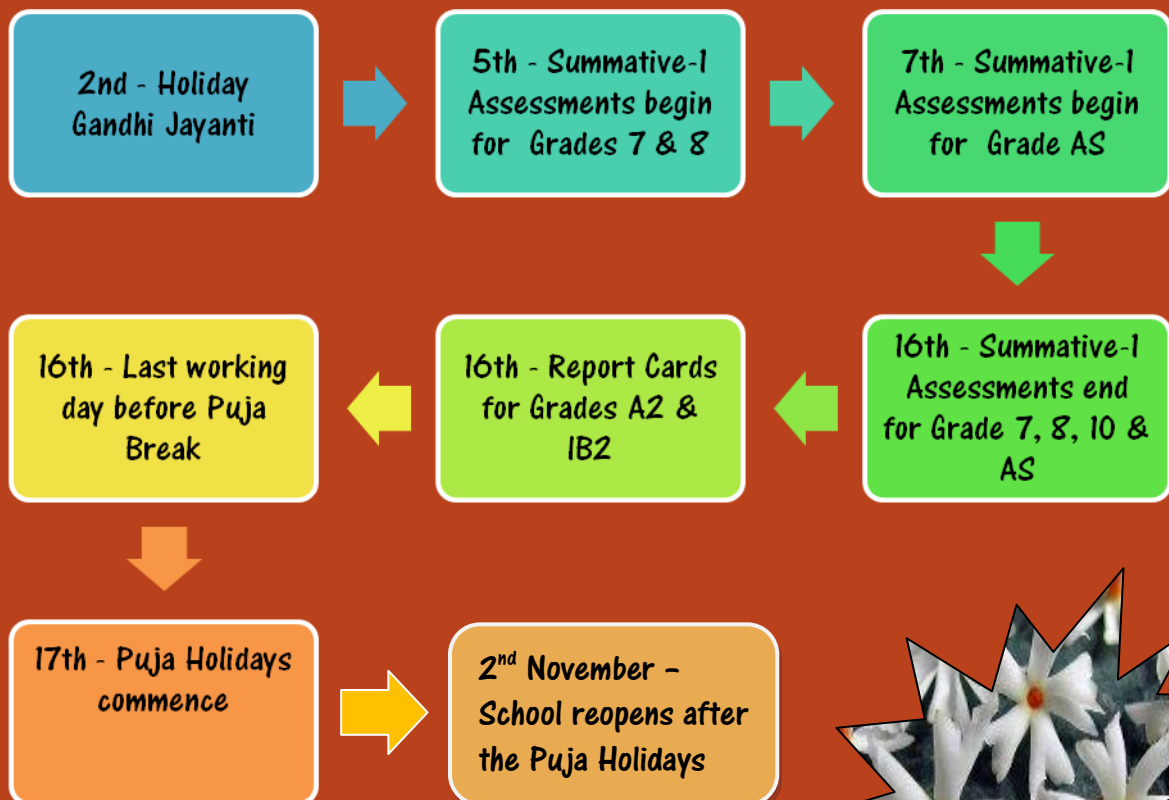
*Senior School*

*October 2020*

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# October



# I.I.H.M Teachers' Day 2020 award goes to Ms. Neera Dubey, in acknowledgement of her spirit of positivity and commitment

*In conversation with  
Ms. Neera Dubey*



**Q. How did you enter the world of teaching?**

I took up the teaching profession at the age of 27, following a certain life-changing circumstance. The decision to assume the profession was neither a 'calling' nor a 'wish'; it was a 'need'. Nonetheless, it was destined to become a 'passion'. 23 years of cherished, focussed and dedicated *service* to education has defined my journey.

**Q. What is the 'mantra' that you have followed in these 23 years of selfless service to society?**

Teaching for me is forging a relationship through instructions, a relationship that demands more than an exchange of academic information. It affects the development of your minds into wise young adults.

**Q. What according to you is the best part about being a teacher?**

Being associated with young minds, being able to understand, trust, and love them, and sharing with them the joy of learning – these I think are the best part of being a teacher.

**Q. Could you share some of your techniques/methods that have driven your enquiry-based learning?**

The key-role in my method is played by empathy, concern and thinking from the student's point of view. Instead of focusing on how to teach, I like to focus on how they will learn. I try to help students discover their own potential and attain self-confidence. I attempt to help them respect their own individuality and that of the others. Individual differences have to be tackled adeptly through differentiated

approaches. I use unconventional approaches in classroom teaching, try to present complicated concepts in something more accessible for them.

**Q. In today's age where every student has access to so many kinds of technology and information at their fingertips, do you think the teaching profession is becoming obsolete?**

In my opinion, this will depend considerably on us teachers, and how we can extend services that outshine the ability of technology.

**Q. How do you negotiate the dynamic learning space between a teacher and a student?**

I strongly believe that plan and preparation of lessons should be a significant area of a teacher's concern. Focus should be on preparing an environment which induces interest, attention and participation. Teaching must be adapted to several factors like age and aptitude as well as the day to day range of enthusiasm or interest or fatigue on the part of students. The learning space must be a trusted comfort zone for students where a collaborative goal is pursued, and where their opinion and suggestions are respected. Motivation comes as a spin-off – and learning happens automatically. Students should be encouraged to willingly participate in assessment, feedback and consolidation of concepts learnt. Queries should be addressed positively and honestly.

**Q. What do you enjoy doing in your leisure time?**

There could be a number of things I get myself busy with, but what I really enjoy doing is catching up with people who I have been close to, but am unable to meet often.

**Q. What is that one advice that you would give to the next generation of teachers?**

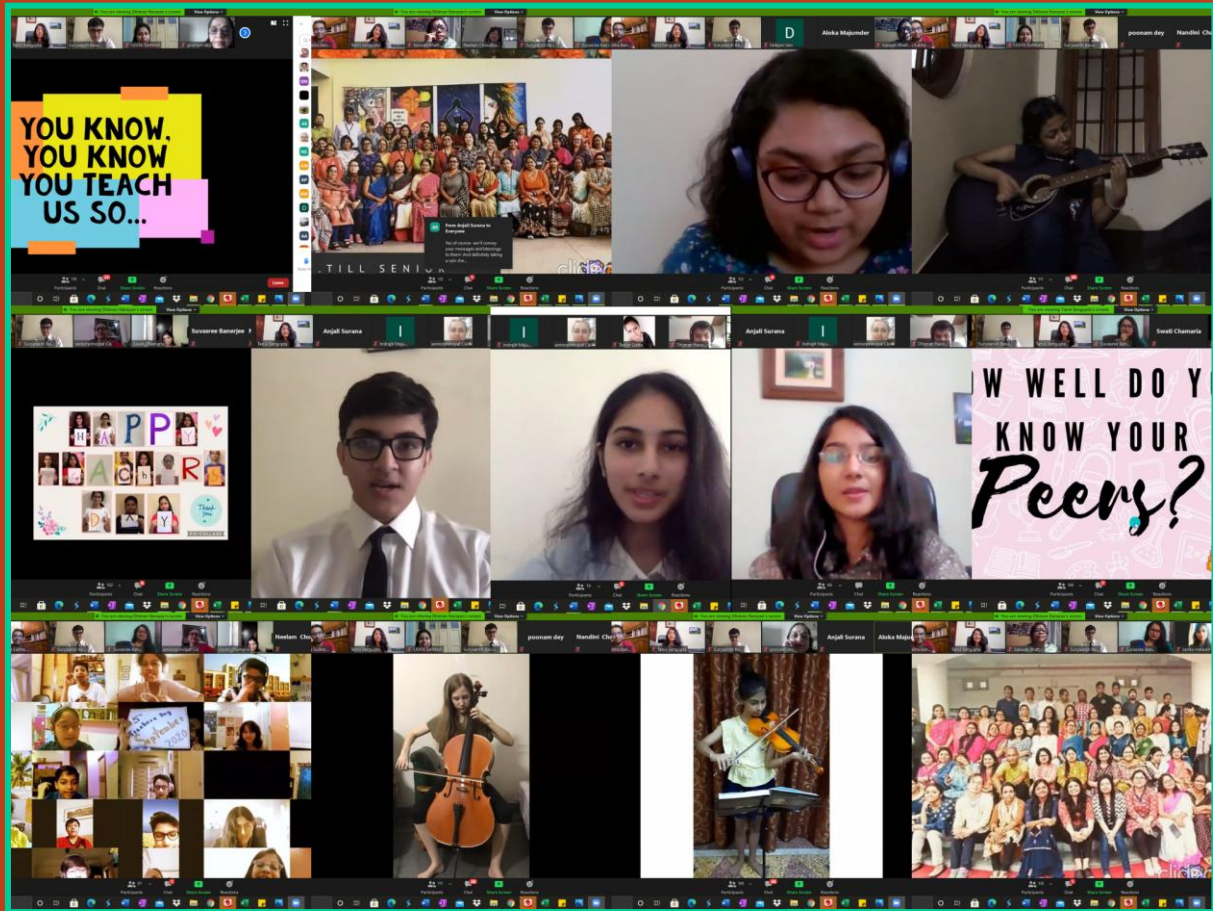
I would ask them to ensure that the teaching-learning process generate joyfulness of achievement along with the knowledge and skills.

**Q. What is your message for the students of CIS?**

Students of CIS that I have known are very sensible and responsible. I would only like them to keep in mind that Education is a vital part of growing up. They should handle it with responsibility and make sure they enjoy the process.



# Teachers' Day 2020

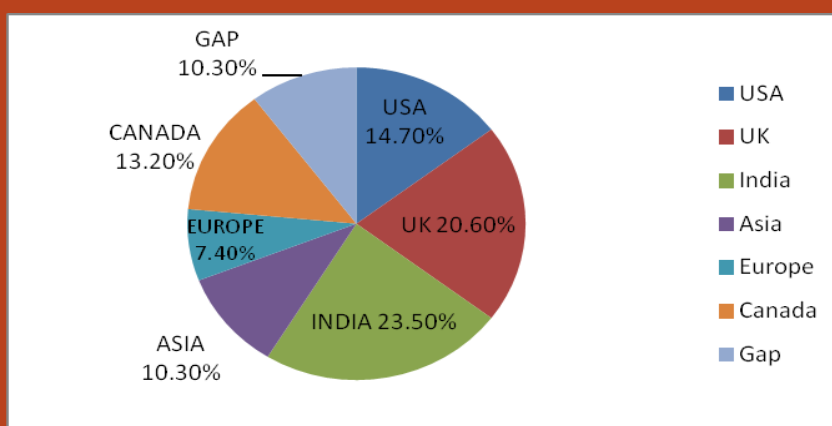


The Student Council put together an incredible virtual programme for this celebration. There were heartfelt messages from the present and past students, recorded performances and quizzes about the teachers.

# Placement of students 2019-2020

Over the years, CIS Alumni have received acceptances from Universities across the world. The graduating class of 2019 – 20 has also been successfully placed across the best Universities in the globe.

At a glance the placements of 68 students of the year 2019, including 41 from A Levels, 24 from the IB and 2 from the batch of 2018 – 19 are as follows:



Some of the Universities include : **University of Oxford**, **University of Cambridge**, **National University of Singapore**, **Nanyang Technological University**, **University of California Los Angeles**, **University of Hong Kong**, **Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**, **University of Toronto**, **University of Michigan**, **University of Amsterdam**, **London School of Economics**, **Imperial College London**, **University of Illinois Urbana Champaign**, **New York University**, **University of Boston**, **Grinnell College**, **University of Waterloo**, **University College London**, **University of Birmingham (Medical School)** , **University College Dublin (Medical School)**, **Humanitas University (Medical School)**, **Charles University**, **Ashoka University** and **St Xavier's College Kolkata** to name a few.

# The good work continues



*To be inspired is great,  
to inspire is incredible*

*On 20th September, 2020, Ipsita Maiti of A Level in Calcutta International School, Kolkata, assisted by 'Ravindra Sarobar Citizens' Committee planted eighteen saplings at Rabindra Sarobar, Kolkata, to fulfil her 18th birthday commitment on engagement of Environmental Restorations.*

Keep up the good work



# Teaching and Learning activities in CIS

## Geography - Grades 6 & 7



### GRADE 6

engaged in a class activity in which the students made a **Diary of Earth** to show how earth is changing naturally and how it has been changed by Humans.

### GRADE 7

Students worked on the project on **Life at Two ends of the World** within the same thermal zone **Beijing & Vancouver**. Students shared their screen to show how they are preparing their project.





# Chemistry Grades 6 & 7

## GRADE 6

## What happens to the particles when you keep dissolving?

The Grade 6 students debated on the above-mentioned topic in their Chemistry classes. They then conducted experiments to find out how the dissolving time was affected with successive spoonfuls of salt. The problem just 'super saturated' their minds!



# GRADE 7

## Diffusion Dilemma

Students conducted diffusion experiments at home under the guidance of Dr Bijita Ganguly Roy to determine the effect of temperature on the rate of diffusion. They investigated using a range of colours from water colour paint to food colouring and inks.



# WAR of WORDS

## History-Civics - Grade 8

As part of their History-Civics group activity Grade 8 debated on two topics

**1... 'The nature of British rule in India'**

**2... 'Democracy is the best form of government'**

Students were divided into four groups, named after renowned orators like Nelson Mandela, Margaret Thatcher, Abraham Lincoln and Plato. The group leaders worked well with their team members and as a result, both the topics were highly contested and the debate was full of interesting facts and opinions.





# Senior school students work with scientists - An IRIS project

Most of the materials around us were formed by stars living, dying and colliding with each other. However, there are still many questions persisting as to how these elements are made and distributed throughout galaxies like our own Milky Way.

As a part of Cosmic Mining, students got a chance to analyse data from the Spitzer Space Telescope. Young researchers learned how to examine and classify stellar objects based on the light they emit. Their work contributed to the first fully classified catalogue of these sources.

These results will be an extremely valuable resource for astronomers. The ultimate goal, however, is to assist astronomers with the identification and selection of potential targets for the James Webb Telescope – the soon to be largest, most powerful and complex space telescope to have ever been built.





## ONLINE EXAMINATIONS FOR GRADE 12

IBDP Year 2 and A2 students have successfully completed their online examinations. The teachers of IBDP Year 2 and A2 explored various options but finally settled on conducting examinations on exam.net, an online examination portal. The students used two different accounts to enter the exam using their laptop and mobile phone cameras in order to ensure academic honesty. We attempted to closely simulate the atmosphere of physical examinations and provide an opportunity for our students to test their knowledge against examination standards.

## Learning Beyond the Classroom

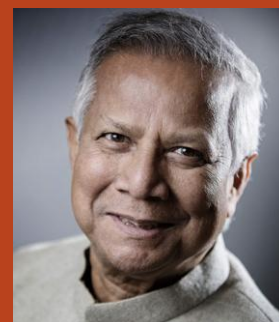


### Ashoka University Lecture Series

The students of IBDP Year1 have participated in a series of lectures held by Ashoka University on various topics such as Insects are Us, Artificial Enzymes: Making Molecules with a Purpose, Move It! With Motor Proteins, CS + X: Unlocking the New Computer Science.

These lectures offered High School students an opportunity to enter college classrooms and attend lectures by some of the best professors in the world.

### Economics students attend Lecture of Nobel Laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus



On 8th September the economics students of IBDP and A Levels attended a lecture by renowned Nobel Laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus on the topic "The Revolution from MicroFinance to Social Business." The lecture was organised by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan and RID. The students benefited immensely from this rare experience of interacting with a Nobel Laureate.

## JAPANESE IMMERSION PROGRAMME FOR GRADE IB1

On 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2020, the students of IBDP Year 1 participated in an event called Online Swagatam, organized by the Japan Foundation, New Delhi. Besides the students, the Japanese and Spanish Language teachers and the IBDP CAS Coordinator participated in the event. The goal of this program was to enhance the motivation amongst students to learn the Japanese language and to develop International Mindedness. The programme also aimed to let them know about Japan, as well as the Japanese language and culture.

The students enjoyed the program immensely. There was a quiz on Japan, in which all the students participated enthusiastically. This was followed by a short animation film about the traditional Japanese 'Moon Viewing' festival which is celebrated in September. Although it was in Japanese, all students were able to understand it and participated in the quiz on the film.

Lastly, there was an Origami session in which the students were taught how to make a Rabbit by folding paper. The students were also shown some Japanese application tools which they could use to learn the language in an interesting manner.



**Its End of Term 1 Assessment time...for Grades 7,8 & 10**  
**We wish all the students all the very best.**