

# CIS HERALD

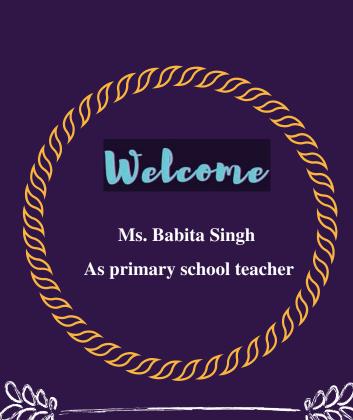
Monthly e-magazine published by Junior School Vol. 11

June Events

14th June School reopens for teachers

22nd June to 24th June Parent Orientation for Grades Pre Nursery to 5

22nd June to 25th June Student Orientation for Grades 1 to 5





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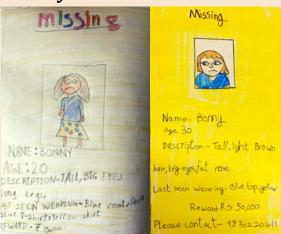
> A year to remember! Page 25

# Innovations & Initiatives - English

Innovation and teaching went hand in hand in the English classes. Interactive online games and engaging learning apps were used to make concepts simpler. Along with this, projects which focused on different writing styles and made learners aware of their role as important members of the society were undertaken.

#### Grade I

- Making a poster for a missing person using descriptive writing skills.
- Cut and paste activities on sequencing and alphabetical order AGE:20 in class.







### Grade 4

- Students were asked to do a project on hair traditions from around the world and Haikus.
- Analyzing news broadcasts.

#### Grade 3

- Students wrote letters to the Prime Minister of India, requesting him to take stringent steps to curb air pollution in our city. This was part of an initiative taken up by Bengal Clean Air Network.
- Creating awareness and persuading people to get vaccinated, students created their own advertisements on the COVID vaccine.
- Working in a group Students created comic strips and playscripts and acted it out in front of their peers.

#### Grade 5

- A New Language pupils spoke and chatted in a new way using short forms such as LOL Laugh out Loud, SYS See you Soon. This was used in a class and pupils made a long list of their favorite short forms.
- Peer reviews After a dramatized reading, peers who judged the reading of the chosen readers, took the initiative to give their views on the quality of the reading in a friendly manner.
- Students wrote and delivered speeches on poaching as an extended activity to the English Elocution Competition. They also wrote poems on poaching in small groups. While attempting to write small rhymes, the students wrote kennings on sharks/cats/eagles.

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# MATHEMATICS



#### <u>Everything around you is mathematics - Shakuntala Devi</u>

Be it your home, fashion or architecture math makes its presence felt everywhere. Students honed their life skills by incorporating math skills in their everyday life and discovered how math makes our life orderly and keeps chaos at bay.



Reuse Reduce Recycle with Math - Grade 1 making wonderful models out of recycled materials and presenting them with finesse.

## Budding Architects of Grade 2



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Budding Architects of Grade 2 extended their learning of 3D shapes to a hands on activity using popsicle sticks.

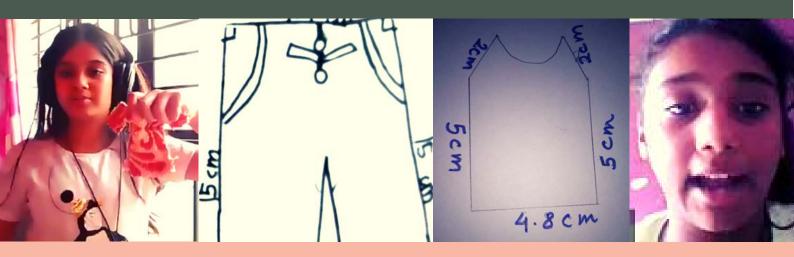
## Math in the Kitchen



Grade 3 children applied their mathematical skills in baking mud cupcakes and preparing milk shakes in class.



## Math meets Fashion



Grade 5 students worked on measurement skills in class. They took measurement and applied their knowledge to design some nice outfits.

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# **SCIENCE** Everything is theoretically impossible until it is done.

Experiments and activities took center stage to help the students of Junior School to develop scientific enquiry skills and support learning through discovery. They were encouraged to research, question, analyse through innovative projects and unique collaborations with other subjects.



Grade 1 presented their collaborative work on Shadow Puppet. It was a collaboration of Science, Art, Drama and Value Education. The students learnt different skills related to all the subjects and had a good experience.



Food for thought

Grade 2 worked on a project through which they were able to relate the edible parts of a plant to their nutritional value. They also explored how these edible parts of the plants are used to prepare different dishes at home.



Class 3 presented their understanding of sound by collaborating with music. Students worked in groups to prepare a powerpoint presentation and played a musical instrument to explain the concept of vibration and pitch.

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Sound

Music

Information and Communications technology The past year saw an enhancement in the ICT skills of not just our students but of the community as a whole. Students worked on several interesting projects and used their ICT skills in projecting ideas in other subjects too.



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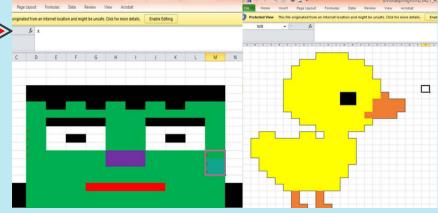
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**G**arde 1

Integrating ICT with Value Education, students created posters on 'COOPERATION'.



The students of grade 2 explored the basic features of Excel by creating pictures on it. These pictures were designed by colouring in the different cells according to the list of instructions given to them.



## s yet to come .....

2021....the best Grade 3

Grade 3 students incorporated the tools and techniques learnt on PowerPoint to create interesting calendars for 2021.



In an innovative group project, students of Grade 4 worked collaboratively to research and present NASA's Mission Mars.



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## HUMANITIES NEVER.STOP.EXPLORING

Students were involved in self-driven projects and research oriented activities in History, Geography and Social Studies. Along with learning concepts and facts about the world they also worked on saving the environment and spreading awareness. The senior most students of Junior School undertook a collaborative project with Alfrink College Netherlands. The collaboration was a grand success.



to demonstrate the different layers of the Earth.

## constellations and gave them a name.

paintings as a part of their study on the Early Humans

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#### Frade 3



Students turned into archaeologists, excavating, collecting and labelling their exhibits.

#### ARCHAEOLOGY



Students researched various aspects of the Egyptian civilization.



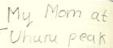
#### **VOLCANOES OF THE WORLD**

Naman Kedia demonstrated to his peers how a volcanic eruption takes place, with the available materials in the house.

#### LEARNING LANDFORMS THROUGH EXPERIENCES

Students prepared their travel diary to explain the different landforms they have visited. They shared their experiences through writing with pictures.







#### Grade 4

#### **AYURVEDA**

The students learnt about the Vedic Age and were introduced to the age old science of Ayurveda.

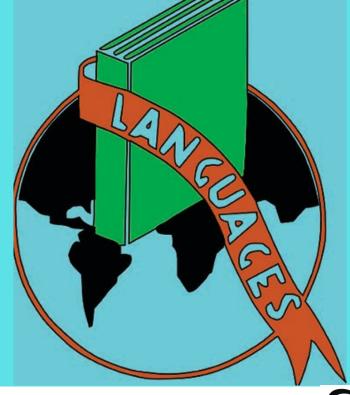
#### Grade 5

#### **OVERSEAS COLLABORATION**

Students of Grade 5 and Alfrink College, Netherlands came together to find out the existence of social inequalities present in current day societies.



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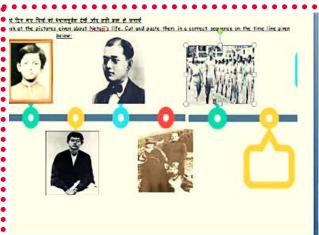
The teachers of the language department triumphed over the hurdles of online learning and introduced several innovative teaching and learning techniques. Their classrooms saw the use of several learning apps which not only facilitated learning but also made it full of fun!

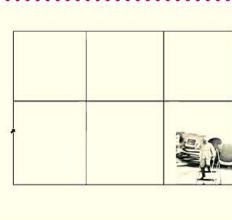




Grade

Sorting objects with the letters अand आ





PPT and videos helped Grade 1 learn about Netaji. They also arranged the momentous events of his life sequentially on a timeline.







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#### SWAR AND MATRA

Students of Grade 2 learnt the concept that 'Swar' gives 'Maatra'. They were guided to do a project where each child chose a 'Swar' and its corresponding 'Maatra', illustrated and wrote names of four to five objects of that Swar/Maatra.

#### Grade <u>3</u>



Grade 3 combined their IT and culinary skills to set up a unique birthday party where only Hindi was allowed as the medium of communication. The students extensively used online educational tools like Kahoot, Quiziz, Nearpod and Padlet to learn and revise concepts learnt in Hindi.

#### Grade 4

#### AZAAD BHARAT KE SWATANTRATA SENANI

Grade 4's research on the Freedom Fighters of India.



#### HANDICRAFTS OF WEST BENGAL

Students of Grade 4 explored and learnt about the rich handicraft of Bengal.

#### NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

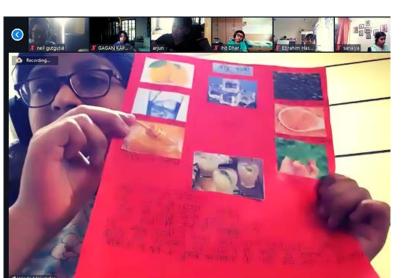
Grade 4 celebrates Netaji's birthday.



Grade 5



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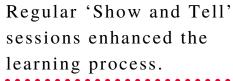
Grade 5 learnt sequencing as they wrote healthy and tasty recipes.



বাংলা

#### Grade I







Virtual Tour of Netaji Bhavan.



Visual discrimination between letters and words.

JOL

BACHAO

Auto-hide 1









Grade 3

#### <u>LISTENING</u> COMPREHENSION



#### Grade 4

<u>ONLINE</u> <u>QUIZZES AND</u> <u>LEARNING</u> <u>APPS USED</u>



Bengali Grade 4 S Singhal Section B - Listening Comprehension



# 🍀 Spanish & French 🍀

- Students prepared a script in Spanish/French and interviewed their family members.
- Nearpod was used extensively during Spanish&French lessons .
- A French-Spanish collaborative research project on Tagore's connections with France and Spain.
- Presentation of a poem from Gitanjali in French/Spanish by the students.
- Introduction to French literature through poetry.



Nearpod activity in Grade 5 Interview in Spanish by Grade 3 students.

French recites from Gitanjali.

# Mandarin

- Introduction of dynamic demonstration of Chinese character writing, to teach the students the correct order of strokes.
- Use of various online Chinese teaching tools and e-books.





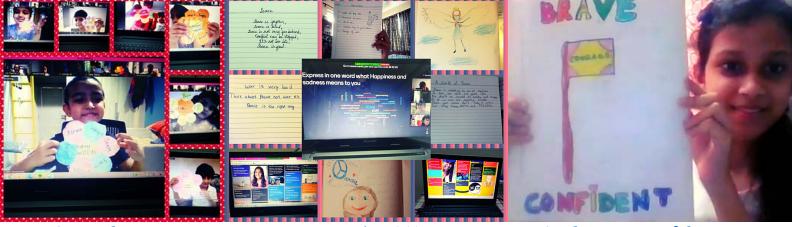
- The traditional WEINACHTEN (Christmas) celebration presentation.
- Comparative study of the school structure and their activities in India and Germany.

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#### DON'T JUST TEACH KIDS HOW TO COUNT. TEACH THEM WHAT COUNTS THE MOST.

The learners at CIS Junior School, enjoyed several activities while focusing on the attitude of gratitude, showing appreciation, valuing the work of others, creating a sense of belonging and increasing well-being for all.



**Peace Flowers** 

Learning about Values

An Expression of Courage

Art

#### "ART WASHES AWAY FROM THE SOUL THE DUST OF EVERYDAY LIFE." - PABLO PICASSO

Artistic innovation was at its peak this year. Making the best use of technology, students tried emulating famous artists and their creations. Art blended with English, Math, Hindi, ICT, Science, Drama, Value Ed and it also stood alone, creating breathtaking images.

Scratch Art

#### Mask – Roll a Picasso

Land Art – Inspired by Andy Goldsworthy











Artwork inspired by Farida Kahlo and Henri Rousseau Kahlo and Diego Rivera





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#### I REGARD THE THEATER AS THE GREATEST OF ALL ART FORMS - OSCAR WILDE

The drama classes aimed at giving the students a much needed emotional respite and the confidence to face the challenges of an unprecedented year with a smile.



Every action triggers a reaction

**Oops with props!** 

Face is the mirror of mind



#### MUSIC IS THE ART OF THINKING WITH SOUNDS.

The CIS Junior Choir created historical moments this year with their incredible online choir performance, especially at the Christmas and Spring Assemblies.





#### COMMIT TO BE FIT

Commendable commitment displayed by the P.E instructors and their students as they sweated it out, with utmost enthusiasm, on the challenging virtual platform.



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# <u>Tagore-The</u> <u>Universal Voice</u>

#### Pre Nursery A

Students of Pre Nursery A celebrated the occasion of Rabindra Jayanti by singing, dancing and reciting poems and songs written by Rabindranath Tagore. Taking inspiration from Tagore, students drew and painted pictures of the wonderful nature around us.

Students drew pictures of nature



Students performing on the occasion of Rabindra Jayanti



#### Pre Nursery B

Rabindra Jayanti was celebrated on a different note this year in Pre Nursery B. After the narration and description of the poem-'Motibil', students depicted the poem through beautiful illustrations.

A couple of students made good attempt to recite the first stanza of the memorable songs- Ekla Cholo Re and Momo Chitte.



Depicting the poem 'Motibil through illustrations.





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#### Nursery A

The students of Nursery A did a short presentation on Rabindranath Tagore by Aryan Newar, recitation by Samarth Sanyal and a dance performance by Amarissa Vita Das Hartmann.

#### **Celebrating the Bard Rabindranath Tagore**



**Tribute to Tagore** 

#### Nursery B

The students of Nursery B paid tribute to Tagore by reciting and singing the poet's song 'Jodi Tor Dak Shune Keu Na AsheTobe Ekla Chalo Re'.



#### **Upper Nursery A**

In the last week of school some children recited Tagore poems and sang his songs to celebrate the great personality and his contribution to the nation.



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Children of Upper Nursery A recited poems and sang melodious songs for Rabindra

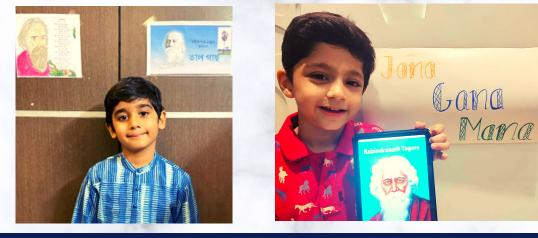
Jayanti

#### **Upper Nursery B**

The children of Upper Nursery B were exposed to Rabindranath Tagore's belief that we learn a lot when we are close to nature. Everything in nature has a lesson to impart.

#### Daksh recited the poem 'Taal Gaach' by Kabi RavindraNath Tagore

Aarav shared the history of Our National Anthem 'Jana Gana Mana'



#### Rabindra Jayanti Celebration in Junior School

With the grimness of the pandemic looming large, on the morning of 4th May, 2021, the Language Department of CIS, rekindled a ray of hope in our hearts, as the students of Grade 3 remembered 'Kavi Guru' Rabindranath Tagore'. The students paid their tribute to the poet-philosopher virtually, on the auspicious occasion of his 160th Birth Anniversary. The day was made 'Tagorian' in its flavour and spirit in a unique way as the students tried to explore Tagore's Global connections- in particular, his liaison with France and Spain. The main attraction of the programme was the delightful recitation of a poem from Tagore's Nobel winning collection of poems – Gitanjali, by the 8 year olds in French and Spanish. The Assembly came to a befitting end with the soulful rendition of the Bengali song/poem – Tumi Kemon kore gaan koro he guuni. (I know not how thou singest, my master!).



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## Happy Farewell!

See you later alligator, after a while crocodile. Bye Bye butterfly, see you again next time !

#### **Pre Nursery A**

The session ended with the most memorable class party where students narrated stories, ate snacks and danced together.



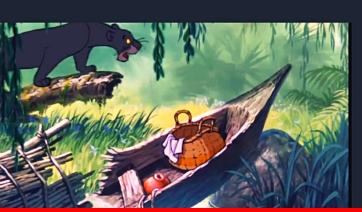


#### **Pre Nursery B**

During the last week of online school, students of Pre Nursery B narrated their favourite stories in class. It was a joy to see them listen to their peers with rapt attention. A few children chose to read the books made by them. They also shared some unique number aids and games they have at home. It was a fruitful session and an effective way to wrap up the academic term 2020-21.

#### Nursery A

The Happy Hearts of Nursery A enjoyed a virtual breakfast while watching their favourite story 'Jungle Book' on the last day of the session. What could be a better way to say adios to a wonderful though challenging year!







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#### Nursery B

The students and parents shared notes of gratitude and appreciation for their teachers on the last day. Handmade cards and thank you messages were extended and they remembered some good times that they shared on the virtual platform. They enjoyed a virtual breakfast with their friends and exchanged goodbyes!



#### **Upper Nursery A**

The children of Upper Nursery A wrapped up this exceptionally challenging and unique year of online teaching with a great sense of joy, gratitude and fulfilment. On the last day of school, the students had a virtual class party with some dancing, music, games and delicious snacks. Sweet cards and messages were shared among the teachers and the children.

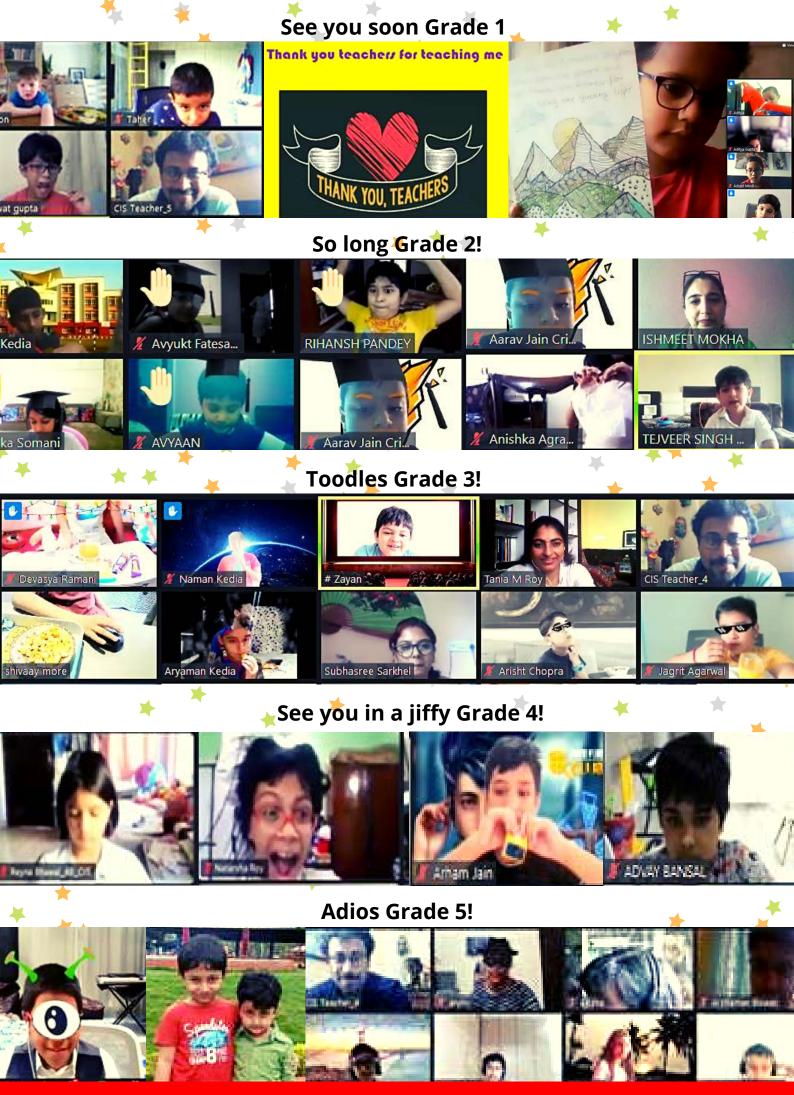


With heavy hearts the children and teachers of Upper Nursery B bid farewell to each other. It was a year of virtual teaching, where we had bonded as if we were at school. We wish all our children a safe and wonderful year ahead!

#### **Upper Nursery B**



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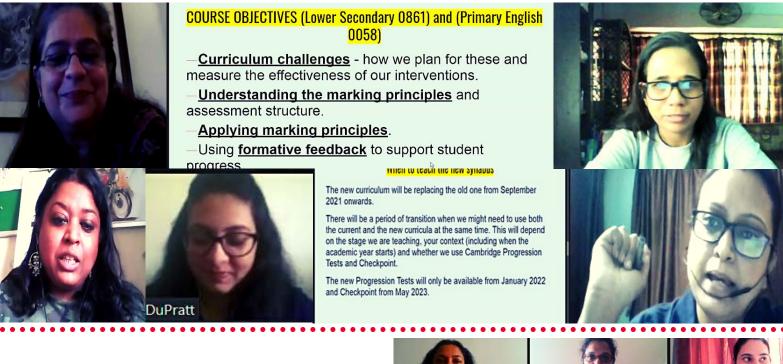
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## **Professional Development**

Ms. Upasana Saraswati of the Middle School, Ms. Amanda DuPratt and Ms.Tanbir Datta of the Junior School had attended the Extension Training for Cambridge Lower Secondary English (0861) and Extension Cambridge Primary English (0058) trainings virtually in February 2021, under the guidance of CAIE trainers, Ms. Sioban Parker and Ms. Lea Williams.

On 12th May, 2021, the teachers of the Primary, Junior and Middle Sections came together to attend a sharing session by the three teachers who had undergone the training. Initiated by H.O.D. English, Mrs. Preeti Roy Choudhury, the session saw the teachers discuss the key notes of their training, the learning and take-away with the rest of the department.

The session was also attended by Mrs. Nayar, Section Heads, Mr. Surya Subha Banerjee and Mrs. Sharmila Majumdar. Mrs. Nayar appreciated the effort put in by the teachers to put together the presentation for the sharing session.



Mrs Shweta Mazumder underwent a five week Cambridge Primary Science Introductory Training (0097) training in Feb-March 2021. She shared the highlights of her learning with the Science Department of Junior School. The session was attended by Mrs Nayar, Mrs Majumdar and Mrs Ahuja, Science Coordinator of Junior School.



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Having completed twelve glorious years at CIS, Ms. Sarbani Ganguli was given a fond and memorable farewell on her retirement. The entire Junior school team got together on the virtual platform, on 17th May, 2021 to commemorate and celebrate her accomplishments and years of service at CIS. Mrs. Nayar, Mrs. Majumdar and Mrs. Choudhary shared their kind words of deep appreciation for Ms. Ganguli recounting her years of dedicated service to the institution. Teachers of the Primary department and Ms. Sarkhel sung melodious songs to celebrate happy memories with Ms. Ganguli. Ms. Khaitan, the emcee of the event, presented an audio-visual featuring Ms. Ganguli in her varied roles as a teacher, a performer and a team worker. A symbolic candle lighting ceremony was conducted in honour of Ms. Ganguli by Ms Khanna.

CIS presented Ms Ganguli with a silver plaque and a cake on 15th May, as a token of appreciation and gratitude. During the online session, she shared her journey as a teacher and her experiences in the field of Education for over 30 years. Ms Ganguli has made a positive impact on the lives of innumerable students, teachers and parents. Her contribution to the Primary department of CIS has been enriching and valuable. Always ready to give a helping hand, Ms Ganguli will be missed and remembered by all of us as an industrious worker and a committed teacher. CIS wishes Ms Ganguli the very best for her upcoming ventures and a new beginning to a fresh chapter in her life.







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## THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT TROPHY 2021 WINNER - DIBYESH SANYAL

Dibyesh Sanyal was awarded the trophy for Outstanding student of Junior School for the Academic Session 2020-21. An exemplary student, Dibyesh has exhibited consistency and excellence in academics, co curricular activities, inter school events, leadership roles and conduct through his journey in the Junior Section. We wish him the very best for his future endeavours in Middle School.

Five years ago, I never knew there was an award as prestigious as "The Outstanding Student of the Year" award. It is as real as the effort and hard work my mother and I put in to achieve this feat since I was in class 1. She woke me up in the morning and sat down with me during breakfast and even taught me at night after her office hours. My father too sacrificed a lot for me. He has shaped me, corrected my work and motivated me by relieving my stress. We have collectively dreamt about this feat while working, playing and having loads of fun at the same time.

A special thank you, to my Principal and my teachers who have nurtured me for half a day everyday for 7 years. Not to forget, the didis and dadas including the nurse who have taken special care of me and supported me. The office staff that have helped me and the ECA coordinators who made sure our after school activities went smoothly. Last but not the least, my friends, who have been there all the time with me and helping me always.

Before I go, I would like to leave some advice for all the achievers who are yet to come. No matter how good in academics and sports you are, it is important to gratify everyone and acknowledge the people who have helped in your success. I have had a wonderful time in CIS and I will be forever grateful to everyone.



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## <u>Recognition is the Greatest Motivator</u>

As the Academic session 2020-21 drew to a rightful conclusion on Thursday, 6th May, 2021, special online sessions were conducted in the presence of Mrs Nayar, Mrs Choudhary, Mrs. Majumdar, the subject teachers and the respective class teachers to acknowledge students of the Junior section for excellence in academics and effort in different subjects during the historic school year. It was a year of challenges but we turned it into a year to remember.



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**Moksh Lalani** 







Aaradhya Didwania

#### Vedang Shah

## Grade 3B



Sammagnah Bardhan

Aarav Pasari



Shivam Himatsingka

#### Agastya Chanda

# Grade 4A

#### Khushagra Mohta



Veer Poddar



**Reyna Bhawal** 



#### Bhhavesh Mukim

Alveena Fatima Jawade

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#### Grade 4B



Grade 5A



Rajanya Deb

Grade 5B



## A Year to Remember!

#### Dear CIS Family,

It is hard to believe but it is true. We have completed one academic year online. Years from now, 2020 will be remembered as the year when we learned how to live at a distance from each other and yet continue to function as a unit that knows to work together and learn together.

As the Academic session 2020-21 draws to a close, we want to take the opportunity to look back on a year that turned out much differently than anyone could have imagined. While it was certainly challenging in many ways, it also showed how strong we are as a school – even in the toughest of times.

We rose to the challenge. We proved as an organization to be both robust and extremely flexible in the face of change. We launched the LMS platform and equipped our teachers to teach from home. Not only did we ensure that the curriculum was well covered but the co-curricular activities continued in full swing throughout the year, enriching the teaching -learning process. Calendared events like India day, Teacher's day, Peace Day, Children's Day, Elocution Competitions, Math Science Quiz and assemblies were held virtually. We also commemorated the birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and celebrated the Republic Day for the first time in school.

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Eco friendly initiatives like Composting workshop and growing micro greens on Earth Day were undertaken making the students aware of the small steps that could be taken to live a better and healthy life. A Virtual tour of an Art gallery by Grade 5 students was yet another learning experience online. Who would have thought that the Junior School choir that spent hours together practising in the Music room for their programmes, could not only practice but even perform so brilliantly on the virtual platform! Our Primary learners celebrated the Author Week and the STEM Week (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics). Each student of Upper Nursery was given an opportunity to be the VIP of the Month, share their talents, thus making them feel special and grow in confidence. The home and school partnership was strengthened through having Parent Visitors in Pre Nursery and Nursery who helped the students to expand their horizons of learning.

However, all these accomplishments could only be achieved because we worked as a team.

A big applause to our students who attended the online lessons every day and continued to demonstrate diligence, motivation and determination to work to the best of their ability to learn. They were dedicated and invested their time wisely. They worked wholeheartedly to contribute to the learning process and even helped their teachers to navigate with the new technology.

A special mention to all the parents who have worked behind the scenes, transformed their homes to school, put in time and effort to support their child while meeting the demands of their own work front.

Many thanks to our teachers who dedicate themselves day after day, teaching our students from a distance with new technology, strategies, as well as kindness and respect.

It was this combined strength that made the impossible actually possible.

As we reflect on the year that has gone let us leave you with a few take aways...

As distance learning has shown us, our strengths and interests are constantly evolving. So let us keep our curiosity alive within ourselves.

"There are friendships imprinted in our hearts that will never be diminished by time and distance"—Dodinsky. Let us continue to connect with each other until we can be together again. Don't let distance stop us. Let us not be afraid to make mistakes. Let us Master our growth mind set and use mistakes as opportunities to learn and grow.

We wish your family a safe and restful summer vacation and look forward to welcoming you to yet another productive and exciting new school year.

#### Warm Regards,

Mrs Nayar, Mrs Choudhary, Mrs Majumdar and the team of teachers of the Junior and Primary Sections

## <u>Editorial Team</u>

Mrs. Neelam Choudhary, Mrs. Sharmila Majumdar, Mrs. Sukanya Singhal, Ms. Neha Dixit, Ms. Lakshmi Khanna, Mrs. Shreyaa Dutta Gupta & Mrs. Ruchika Lakhani

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