



Parent's Newsletter, Senior School, September 2021

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
3 rd September	Teacher's Day Celebration for Senior School and IBDP Year 1
4 th September	PTM for Grade 8 and AS
6 th September	PTM for IBDP Year 1
9 th September	Study leave for A2 and IBDP Year 2
10 th September	Summative 1 for A2 and IBDP Year 2 begins
7 th September	IBDP Year 1 in class session on Gender sensitivity
11 th September	PTM for Grade 10
18 th September	PTM for Grade 6
24 th September	Summative 1 for A2 and IBDP Year 2 ends

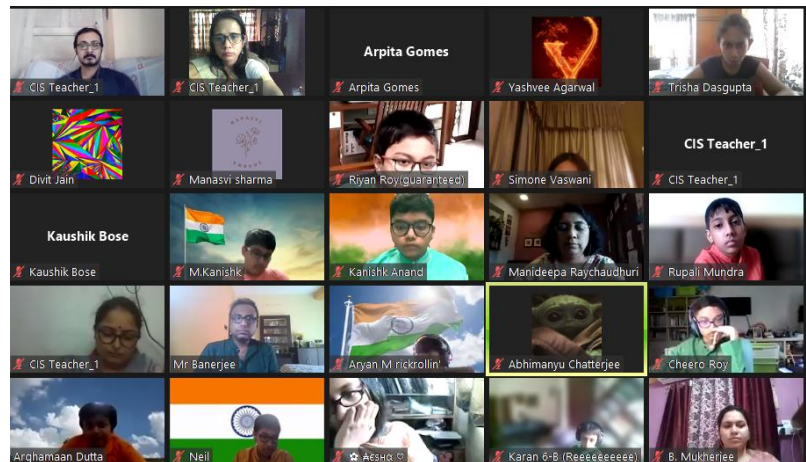
MIDDLE SECTION CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Middle Section celebrated Independence Day on Friday, 13th August instilling a tone of pride for our illustrious past and a note of hope for the future.

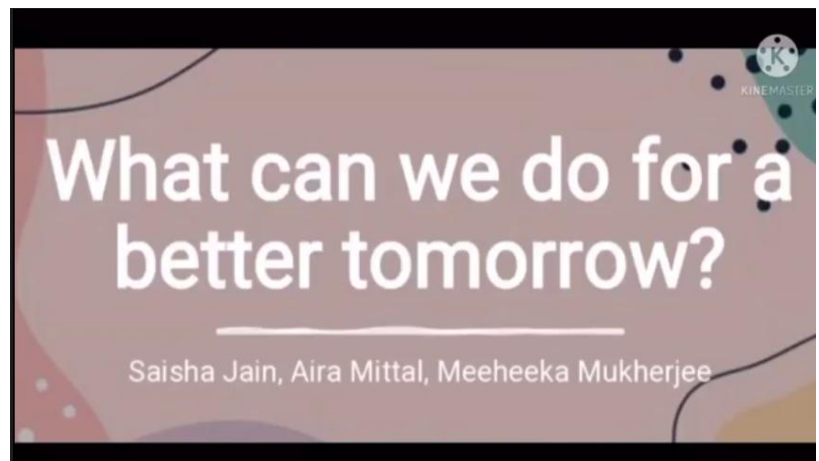
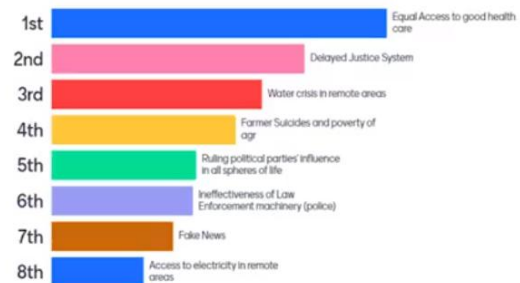
While the segment prepared by grade 6 felicitated the achievements of India in different fields, grade 7 gave insights into what Freedom means and how we undermine that with our privilege.

Finally, grade 8's segment presented the concept of freedom in the times of the global pandemic; how it has made us confined but at the same time allowed us to appreciate the seemingly inconsequential things of our day to day lives.

The tireless efforts of the students and teachers of Middle Section made the assembly a memorable one.



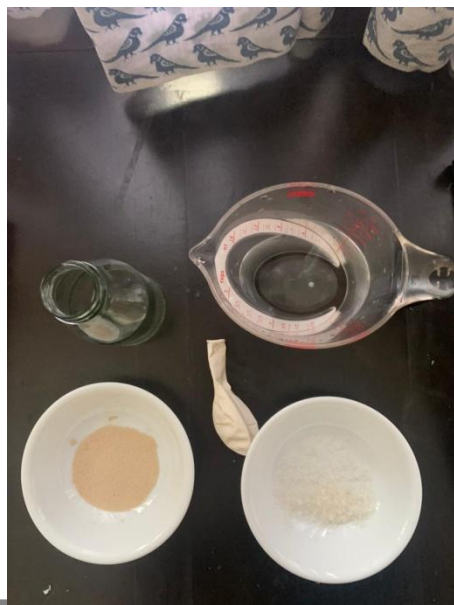
Which of these issues are still a serious challenge to the development of India?



KITCHENS CHANGE TO SCIENCE LABS

Home experiments to explain concepts under these present circumstances where students don't have access to labs. Students of grade 10B got the opportunity conduct an experiment displaying the effect of anaerobic respiration of yeast.

For the experiment they used sugar, warm boiled water, yeast, a narrow mouthed bottle and a balloon.



WELCOME SESSION FOR IBDP YEAR 1 STUDENTS

The IBDP Department organized a fun morning on 5th July 2021, to warmly welcome the new IB1 students to the Department. During the first segment of the session, the IBDP Year 1 form tutor led a game called "Introduce Yourself", wherein the students had to go on a scavenger hunt and find any object and then introduce themselves by saying their name and discussing one common characteristic between them and the object they had found.

Next it was the turn of the IBDP Year 2 students who had planned an ice-breaking session for their juniors. This started off with introducing the course through several memes to lighten up the mood. Following this, there was a 'fresher's ice-breaker' which consisted of each student (including IBDP Year 1 and IBDP Year 2) saying 3 words and then passing it on to somebody else who would add another 3 words. This resulted in a funny story making everybody laugh.

Then each IBDP Year 1 student was asked to talk about themselves for 30 seconds and the IBDP Year 2 students assigned them to a subject that they would fit really well.

An activity based session 'Questioning the Questions' was organised by HOD English Preeti Roychoudhury and Senior Faculty member Chandrani Chatterjee. The session aimed at encouraging the IB students to engage with the skill of asking questions and understanding the importance of close and open ended questions. The session comprised a collaborative activity using different stimuli like films, advertisements, lyrics of songs which formed the base for formulating close ended and open ended questions.

IBDP 1 - 5th July 2021 – Questioning the questions.



Objectives of the task

1. Collaboration.
2. Learning to frame questions.
3. Understanding the utility of open ended questions.
4. Critical thinking.

Futility by wilfred Owens

Arva and Shivangi

Author and Date



How will we play?

THIS GAME HAS TWO ROUNDS -
SCAVENGER HUNT
SHOW AND TELL

STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN 1 MINUTE OF TIME. THEY WILL GO AROUND THEIR ROOM/HOUSE AND FIND AN OBJECT WITH WHICH THEY FIND RESEMBLANCE.

STUDENTS WILL COME BACK A FEAT. COMFORTABLY. EACH OF STUDENTS THEN INTRODUCE THEMSELVES SAYING

MY NAME IS _____
I HAVE FOUND _____
(SHOW THE OBJECT YOU HAVE IN FRONT OF YOUR CAMERA.)

ONE COMMON CHARACTERISTIC BETWEEN YOU AND THE OBJECT HAVE FOUND.

Show and tell

ROUND 2

Scavenger hunt !

ROUND 1

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

IBDP STUDENTS AT LUMIERE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Travelling may still be a struggle in our present circumstances, however two students of CIS, Arjun Sen of A2 level and Arko Aalok Sarkar, student of IBDP Year 2 have been overcoming these challenges and actively pursuing research studies at the summer cohort of the Lumiere Research Programme under Lumiere Education.

Lumiere Education is an education programme with the mission to provide world-class research opportunities for students around the world.

While Arjun Sen is pursuing his research work with Kristine Rezai (PhD from Harvard University in Physics) on the topic 'How do the different platforms of qubit implementation compare with one another when it comes to solving the problem of making quantum computing feasible?', Arko Aalok Sarkar is conducting research under the guidance of Avery Baumann (PhD from Johns Hopkins University in Chemistry). Arko Alok's collaborative research is on the topic 'What are the differences between the cleavage of glycosidic bonds in cellulose via organic or non-organic processes? In terms of energetics profile, optimum conditions, resource and energy requirements'.



TOK EXHIBITION BY IBDP YEAR 2

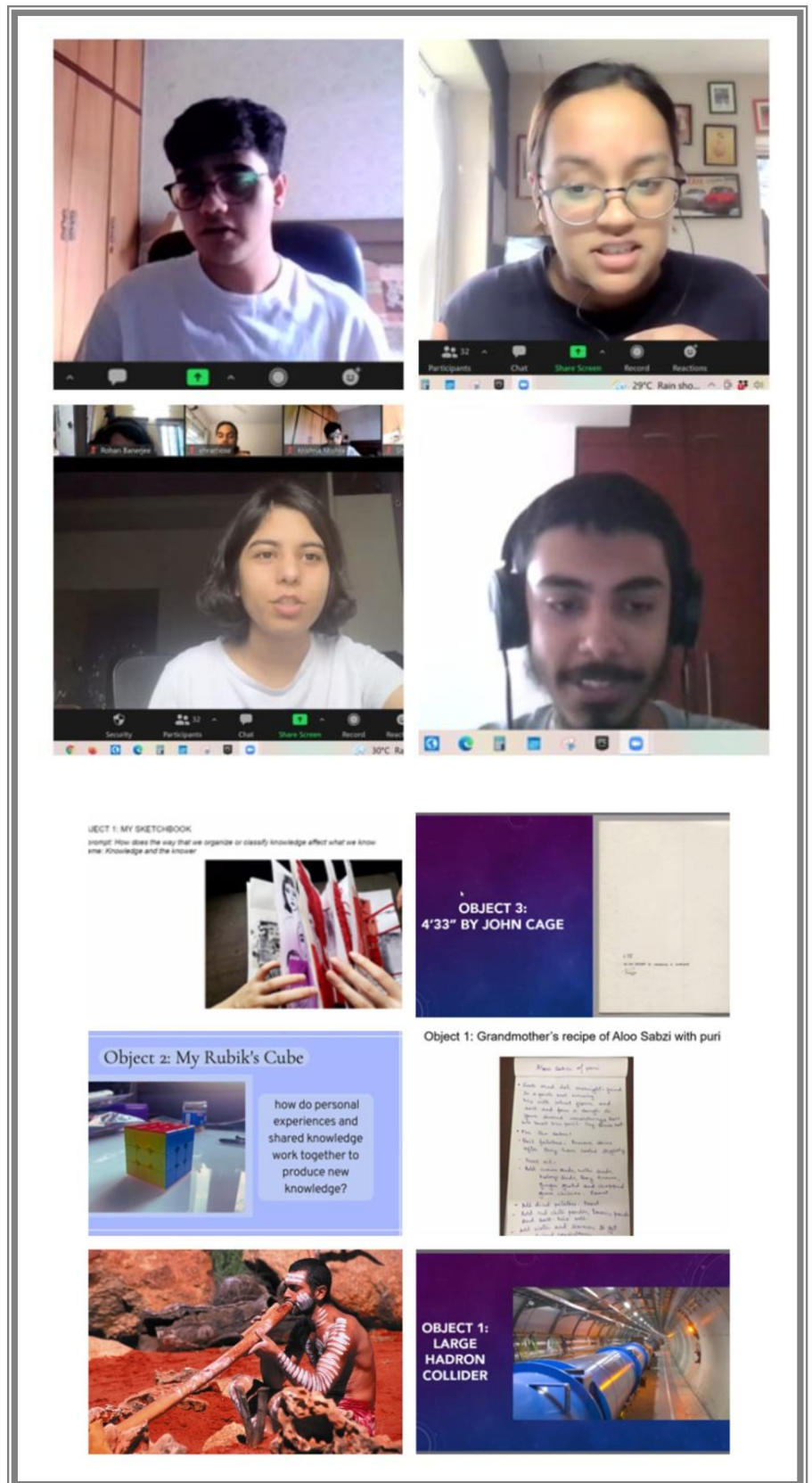
The IBDP Year 2 students had their final TOK exhibitions on the 28th and 29th of July. Though it is meant to be a physical exhibition, this year, it had to be held online. Despite that, the students were enthusiastic and well prepared.

The TOK Exhibition entails responding to a selected prompt using 3 objects and TOK analysis to connect the prompt to the objects. Students selected a wide variety of prompts – such as, for example:

- What counts as good justification for a claim?
- Does some knowledge belong only to particular communities of knowers?
- How important are material tools in the production and acquisition of knowledge?
- To what extent is objectivity possible in the production or acquisition of knowledge?
- What role does imagination play in producing knowledge about the world?
- Who owns knowledge?

The objects selected displayed creativity and the analysis showed very mature critical thinking skills.

The online exhibition, which was a very enriching experience, was attended by IBDP Year 1 students and IBDP teachers.



SEVENTH GRADER'S YOGA JOURNEY

During her summer vacation, Shivani Bhunia of grade 7A joined the online Yoga class called "Yog Pravesh", a six weeks course at entry level of Yoga, conducted by Yoga Vidya Gurukul, Nasik, Maharashtra (recognised by Department of AYUSH, Government of Maharashtra).

At the end of the course the young fitness enthusiast was awarded for her tireless efforts by gaining a First Class with Distinction. Shivani continues her daily practice from 6 am to 7 am in the morning.

We congratulate Shivani on her success and wish her all the best as she continues on her Yoga journey.

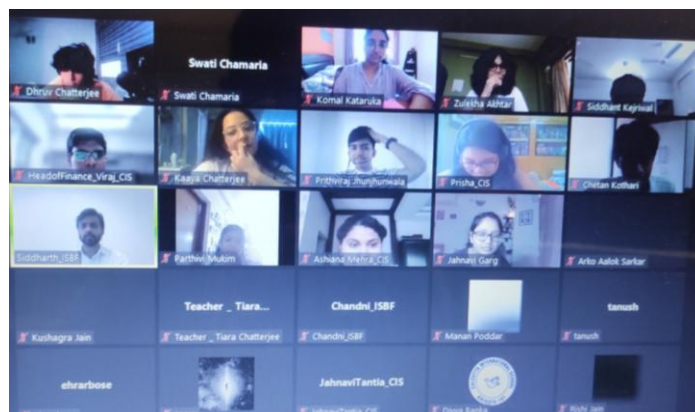


PLAYNOMICS WORKSHOP BY ORGANISED BY ISBF

The Playnomics workshop was organised by ISBF (London School of Economics) on 16th August 2021. The morning session was held at 11.30 am which consisted of an economics resources simulation called "win win" in which students were divided into different countries and they were allocated limited resources. They had to maximise income of their country by mutual trade. The afternoon session that began at 2pm was about the "Bulls and Bears" game. As the name suggests, it was a simulated stock market trading activity.

Around 36 students from grades 11 and 12 participated in the workshop. Some students had knowledge of finance and economics related concepts, some had previously participated in simulated stock market and economics competitions while some others were new to the idea. All the students thoroughly enjoyed the event as they saw their decisions on trading, much like the real world where our decisions on personal finances affect our fortunes and how countries benefit from mutual trade. The workshop succeeded in giving the students an idea of the "bulls and bears" that drive a stock market and "win win" and its impact on the economy.

On the whole the event was an exciting one, with every participant being deeply involved in the decisions to be taken in the simulated game.



TEACHER WINS GLOBAL TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

"The best teachers are those who show you where to look but don't tell you what to see."

Senior School Science and Mathematics teacher Ms Suvasree Banerjee was presented the "Innovative Teacher of the Year" award at the Global Teaching Excellence Award and Conference 2021 conducted by the Kiteskraft Productions.

The award felicitated Ms Banerjee's active engagement in the field of education, assisted by the use of ICT tools in order to optimise student involvement during the COVID-19 pandemic.

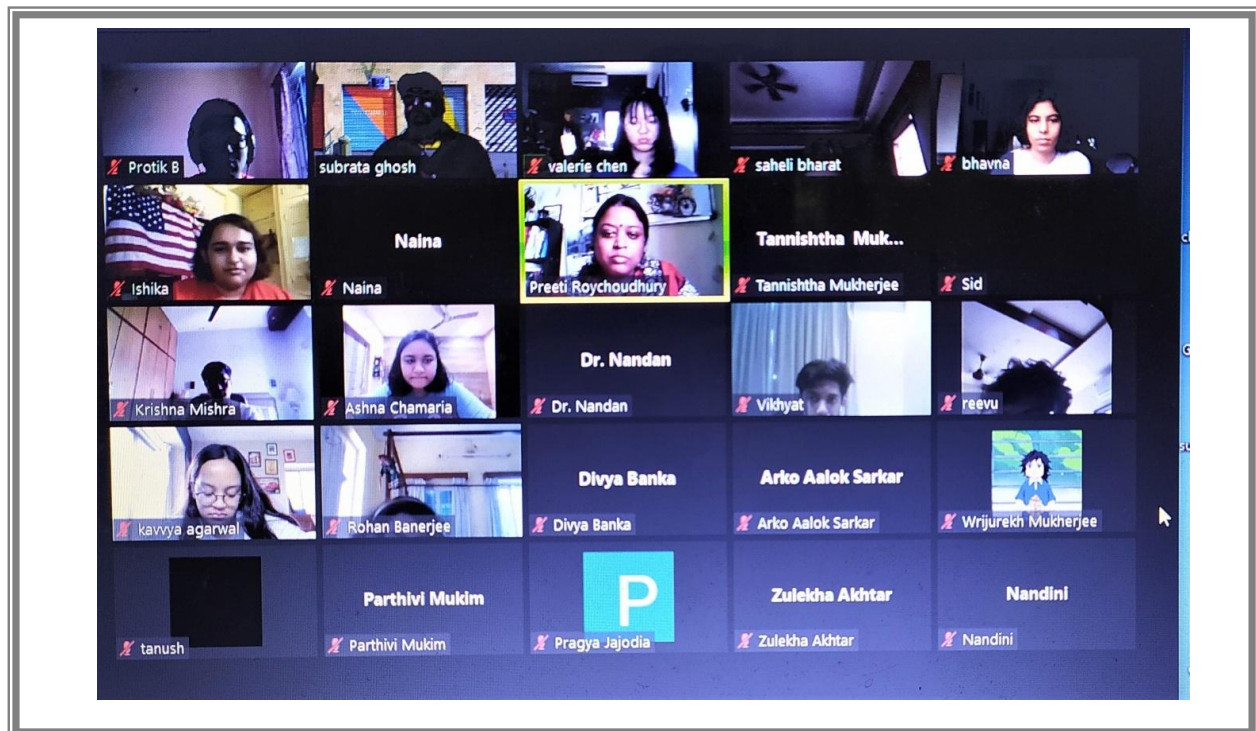


GESTALT & BEYOND: SEMINAR BY IBDP YEAR 2 STUDENTS

The visual world is so complex that the mind has developed strategies for coping with the confusion. The mind tries to find the simplest solution to a problem. One of the ways it does this is to form groups of items that have certain characteristics in common. The same concepts that form groups can be reversed to ungroup items—to make them look unique and stand alone. That is the basis for creating variety. Variety is what adds interest to an image.

Understanding concepts of Gestalt theory can help a designer or a visual composer control unity and variety. The study of Gestalt (German: meaning ‘Configuration’) originated in Germany in the 1920s. It is a branch of psychology that is interested in higher order cognitive processes relative to behaviourism.

On the 11th of August, IBDP Year 2 VISUAL ARTS students Saheli Bharat, Naina Goenka, Protik Banerjee and Valerie Chen conducted a seminar ‘Gestalt and Beyond’ for the IBDP students and faculty. The students delivered a seminar which was both thought-provoking and enriching.



INITIATIVES FOR MENTAL WELLBEING

The month of August, 2021 saw the Counselling department organising a host of Mental Wellbeing Initiatives focusing primarily on Life Skills for Social and Emotional Literacy of Students.

Grade 6 students attended a session with school counsellors on *Transition into Middle School*. In the interactive session, students shared how they are approaching new challenges and enjoying this new experience. Some organization skills such as maintaining a daily planner, tracking assignments, regular self study were emphasized so that they can cope more effectively.

The experience of the first board examination is never easy. The uncertainty of it along with meeting performance expectations can lead to high anxiety and stress. Grade 10 had a fruitful session with the school counsellors on *Dealing with Board Examination Anxiety*. Students uninhibitedly vented their feelings about the rigor of being in a board batch. The session enabled them with some helpful strategies that will enhance their work habits and reduce anxiety.

School counsellor Spriha Patronobis conducted a session with the IBDP Year 2 batch on *Stress Management*. The session focused on sensitizing students on how stress impacts us cognitively, emotionally as well as physically. The session also enabled students to reflect on and re-adjust their perception of success and competence. Tips to release stress periodically were discussed at length as a means to cope with it as well as build resilience.



CONFLUENCE 2021



Confluence, the Annual inter-school festival organised by Calcutta International School is one of the largest and most multi-faceted competitive platforms in the city. Over the years, this annual event, organised by the senior students of the school, has become a perfect forum for the showcasing of a plethora of talent of students from different schools. This year Confluence was organised under the mentorship of the CEO and Senior Principal, Mr Ayan Pal and teachers-in-charge Susmita Mukherjee, Dipanjan Bagli and Kusumika Mitra.

Confluence 21 was held completely online but the CIS family stayed true to its roots. This year had brand new events ranging from instagram reels to gaming. All events had been carefully curated so that students are able to enjoy to the fullest even on zoom. Keeping old traditions alive there were also events like shark tank, stand up comedy, music performances, a fashion show and so many more!

Confluence spanned over 2 days- 13th and 14th August and witnessed 10 schools taking the stage for various events that covered multiple areas of skill and talent. The motivation was to provide a spectrum of opportunities (20 events no less) for young minds to put their best foot forward. The 2 day festival concluded with the closing ceremony which saw the winning school CIS hand over their trophy to DPS, Ruby Park, with La Martiniere for Boys and Modern High School for Girls securing second and third position respectively. The event ended on the perfect note of the spirit of healthy competition and bonhomie with a scintillating performance by the stand up comedian Aadar Malik. He had the entire crowd rocking to his special comedy act which was accompanied with music.

This festival, now in its 7th year, aims to continue to be the most popular platform for students to meet, compete and evolve into the best they can be.



CIS CONFLUENCE 2021 COMBAT OF CODE [sign in](#)

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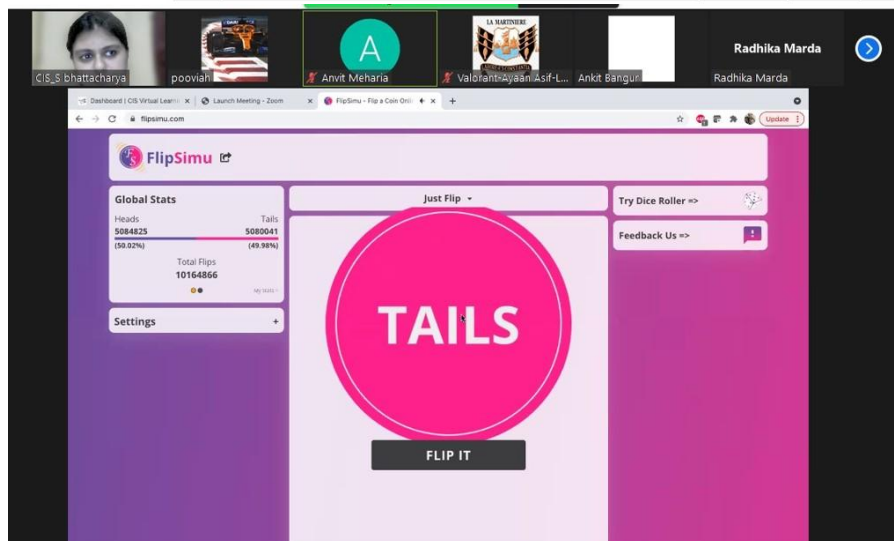
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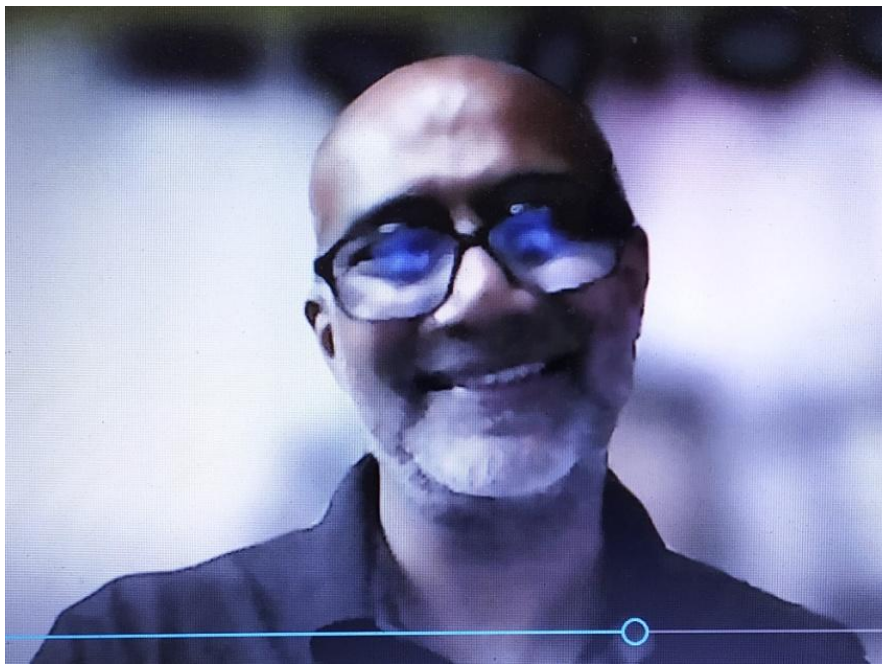
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40616	PART HUMAN PART GIRAFFE	PRTGIRF	0	0.00
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‘RADICAL HOPE’

BY

DR. JANARDHAN GHOSH



A session on “Radical Hope” was organised by Mr. Subrata Ghosh, HOD Visual & Performing Arts with esteemed guest Dr Janardhan Ghosh. Dr Janardan Ghosh a renowned performance artist, academic, theatre director, performance coach and storyteller whose practice includes the use of traditional theories, contemporary performance vocabulary, and interactive media, conducted his session for the IBDP students and faculties of CIS on 30th July. Dr Ghosh who had also delivered a TEDx talk on “Katha Koli”, a new art of storytelling, pursues research-based work on the indigenous practice methods in urban spaces exploring the perspectives of historicity, spiritual consciousness, inter-textual dialogue, and body-space dynamics of myths, tales and gossip.



ANNUAL SENIOR SCHOOL DEBATE

The Senior School Debate, organised by the English Department and held on 17th August, was a resounding success. Despite being conducted on a virtual platform and missing the electrifying atmosphere of a physical venue, the students were able to convey well-structured opinion on a very engaging and thought-provoking topic 'Humans should invest in technology to explore and colonize other planets'.

The 10 participants ranged from students in grades 9 to 12 and were selected after a rigorous preliminary round involving more than 30 students. The selected participants were given an opportunity to present a rebuttal for their own arguments, which was incredibly interesting as a format, highlighting the students' ability to intelligently and creatively counter their own argument.



There is nothing like
oratory, it is a skill that
can turn a commoner
into a king

Winston Churchill
PICTUREQUOTES.COM

The panel of judges for the debate comprised senior English teacher Mrs Rumjhum Sengupta, from St Stephen's School DumDum, seasoned debater and lawyer, Mr. Sourav Chunder, and creative strategist, Capgemini, and quiz master Arijit Sen. Ishika Dubey of IBDP Year 2 moderated the debate effortlessly, aided by Ranvir Kampani of grade 10 who helped keep the time.

The judges were impressed by the eloquence of the speakers and heartily commended all the speakers before adjudging Mayurakshi Sarkar of Grade AS as the winner of the debate, with Ruhani Dutta Gupta of grade 9 as first runner up and Sia Agarwal of grade 10 as second runner up.

All participants of the debate were given certificates appreciating their enthusiastic participation, and the event was deemed a success, enjoyed by both participants as well as the audience.



ACCOLADES FOR CIS TEACHERS

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do”- Pele

Hard work never goes unnoticed. The Employee Recognition Awards (year 2020-21) were declared at the All Staff Meeting, which was held on 20th August and presided over by Junior Principal, Ms. Pratima Nayar and Senior Principal, Mr. Ayan Pal.

Employee Recognition Award: Middle & Senior School-



Mr. Suryasubha Banerjee

For his continuous exceptional contribution at CIS over the last years.

Mrs. Debjani Sen

For leading the substitution team since November, and overseeing the process of assigning sub teachers to ensure teaching and learning happening smoothly. In addition to this Mrs. Sen's has been handling the Managebac transition of classes and setting up of new classes for the CAIE classes,



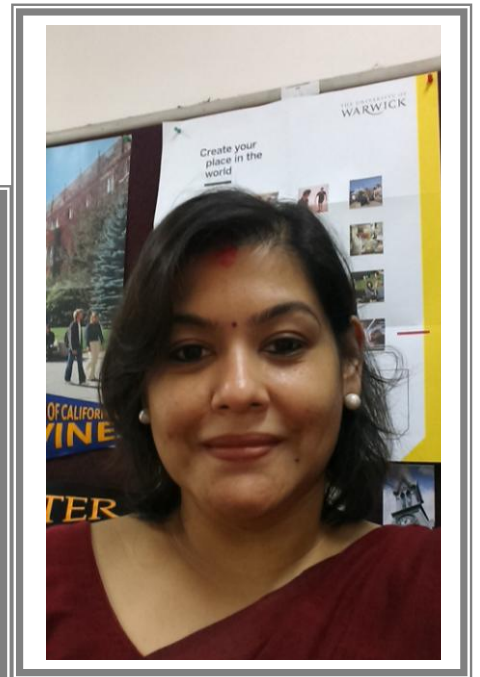
Mrs. Preeti Roychoudhury

Recognising the contribution of the educator who is always willing to go above and beyond. Mrs. Roychoudhury is eager to help and a wonderful team player. She has taken on many responsibilities outside the classroom like introducing ATL skills to the new IB students and arranging media literacy workshops for the students.

2021 IC3 AWARDS

Our Career Counsellor, Mrs. Sanjukta Poddar was nominated among the Top 5 Counselor's in India from across 600+ entries at the 2021 IC3(International Career & College Counselling) Awards.

This nomination is a reflection of her contributions to the field of career and college Counselling. It is recognition of her desire for exploration, willingness to learn, and a continued demonstrated interest in the field of counselling. At the forefront of practicing and encouraging full integrity in terms of predicted grades and documentation, ethical application processes and admissions, and helping students to find their best fit, she has shown leadership through promotion of the criticality of ethical counseling practices.



2021 ANNUAL IC³ INDIA AWARDS

COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

NOMINEES



Ambika Kaul
Education and Career
Counselor, DPS RK Puram
[Winner]



Sameer Arora
Vice Principal,
Legacy School Bangalore



Nitina Dua
HOD - CGC, Shiv Nadar
School, Noida



Asma Ansari
Dean CI and Placements
& Counselor,
Daly College Indore



Sanjukta Poddar
Career Counsellor,
Calcutta International
School