



Vol - 2

CIS HERALD

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E-Waste Awareness Programme

The e-waste awareness programme organized by Hulladeck, took place on 26.7.23 at the IGR. The primary objective of the programme was to educate the participants about the hazards posed by the electronic waste generated in large quantities. The session was conducted by Priyasha Singhania, the Chief Marketing Officer in Hulladeck. Grades 3, 4 and 5 attended the session. The event commenced with a welcoming address by the speaker Priyasha who emphasized the significance of the e-waste issue and the importance of collective action. Then, there was an interactive workshop where the participants engaged in activities and games. An e-waste collection drive was discussed which will soon be implemented for the proper disposal of the electronic waste.

Overall, this session was an eye-opening experience for the participants creating a sense of responsibility amongst all towards the environment.



A Green Revolution: E-Waste Bin Installation and Inauguration Marks a Sustainable Initiative by Science Department

In a significant stride towards a cleaner and greener future, CIS's junior and senior school sections collaborated with Hulladeck, a renowned environmental organization, to install electronic waste (e-waste) bins on August 16, 2023. This environmentally conscious endeavor, driven by the school's Science Department, showcased a united effort by students and teachers alike to promote responsible e-waste disposal and contribute to a healthier planet.

The choice of August 16th for the e-waste bin installation was symbolic, as it drew parallels to the country's upcoming Independence Day celebrations. The initiative aimed to declare "Freedom from E Waste" and pledge towards a future with a cleaner climate and better environmental conditions.

The day commenced with an air of anticipation as students, teachers, and distinguished guests gathered on the school premises. The event was graced by the presence of the school's junior and senior principals, who jointly signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Hulladeck's founder, underlining the commitment to this eco-friendly partnership. The General Manager of Hulladeck was also present, emphasizing the significance of such collaborations between educational institutions and environmental organizations.

The e-waste bin, strategically positioned across the school premises, serve as convenient collection points for electronic devices that have reached the end of their lifecycle. This initiative was not only an essential step towards addressing the growing problem of e-waste but also a lesson in sustainability and responsibility for the students.



E waste collection drive begins in the Junior Section



Student Development Initiatives

Life Skills Sessions with the School Counsellors

Grade 1 attended a life skills session with school counsellor, Mrs. Spriha Patronobis, on 'Transitioning into Junior Section'. The interactive session enabled students to share their thoughts and feelings about coming to a higher grade, a different section, a different floor and all the changes that they have experienced in this respect. Students reported feeling extremely excited and important on having attained a new developmental milestone, both academically and socially. The session also provided the students with an insight into the expectations, rules and regulations pertaining to behaviour, work habits, listening skills, responsibilities and consequences that are appropriate as per their age and Grade level. We hope reiterating the same regularly will help them to adjust to this new phase of school life with ease.

The school counsellor, Mrs Sukonna Halder, conducted a life skill session with the students of Grade 2 on the topic "Understanding your feelings". The interactive session enabled the students to realize that we have different emotions which can be either positive or negative depending on the situations we experience. Through worksheet activities they were able to name the emotions they feel in different situations. Naming emotions is important as it helps individuals understand their feelings better (beyond just feeling good or bad) and to cope with them effectively. The students were also made to do a short guided mindfulness exercise to help them relax during times when they feel strong negative emotions. They can practice this regularly to cope with their feelings in a positive way.

FGD sessions with Swayam

A small group of students from Grades 3 , 4 and 5 participated in a Focus Group discussion with the facilitators from Swayam.

Swayam will be undertaking long term gender sensitisation training for students of all grades. To start this training Swayam conducted FGDs (Focussed Group Discussions) with the students of different age groups to understand their level of understanding on gender and equality, their queries and challenges. The feedback of the FGD will help Swayam to design the training module for all students and later assess the change in their thinking or knowledge base.

Accepting our Unique Abilities

In a classroom, where students with varying abilities, backgrounds, and learning styles come together, peer sensitization plays a crucial role in creating an environment where every student can thrive. It goes beyond mere coexistence; it is about understanding, appreciating, and respecting the uniqueness of each individual. The interaction that takes place among peer groups has a great impact on emotional, social and academic progress.

Peer sensitization is a vital component of an inclusive classroom. It fosters empathy, reduces discrimination, enhances learning, and prepares students for a diverse world. By embracing the principles of peer sensitization, educators can create an environment where every student feels valued, respected, and empowered to reach their full potential.

The SEN Department of CIS conducted a sensitization workshop on 'Accepting our unique Abilities' which was about inclusion and accepting differences. It was held on 16.8.23 with Grade 4 and on 18.8.23 with Grade 5 students.

The session started with an activity that helped the students realize the importance of respecting the different choices we all make, each day. The session moved forward with activities like 'reading the colour and not the word', and 'writing with a non-dominant hand'. These activities enabled the students to understand what people with diverse learning needs go through every day in their lives. The diverse needs were then explored through. The session ended with a discussion on 'how to support our peers with diverse learning needs.'

The workshop aimed to foster inclusivity, understanding and acceptance of individual differences and unique learning needs among students, enabling them to embrace diversity within the student community.





Professional Development Sessions

Session on Neurodiversity

As an advocate for inclusive education, the SEN department of CIS organised a session for junior school teachers on neurodiversity and autism on August 4th from 1.45 to 3.45 p.m.

We invited Mrs. Indrani Basu, a renowned expert in the field of neurodiversity and autism, head of Parent Empowerment and Trainings and a governing body member at Action For Autism, New Delhi, India. Mrs Basu shared her expertise, research, and practical insights during the session. It was an engaging and interactive event, allowing for questions and discussions to ensure that everyone gained a comprehensive understanding of the topics covered. The session provided valuable insights and strategies for supporting students with neurodiverse profiles, including those with autism.



Often educators struggle to understand the challenges that a student with Neurodiversity may encounter in a neurotypical classroom, and the session emphasised these specific needs and aimed at explaining the unique way a NEURODIVERSE BRAIN functions. The participants were given a chance to experience a diverse world through some interactive activities. Ms. Basu captivated the audience with her distinctive and impassioned delivery. The 2-hour training provided participants with a better understanding of Neurodiversity, strategies for including a child with neurodiversity in a mainstream classroom, and, most importantly, how to deal with children who have unique neurological processes.



Mental Wellbeing Sessions - Administrative Team

On the 27th of May, 9th of June and 22nd of July, mental wellbeing sessions were conducted for the Administrative Staff. The facilitators of the session were Ms. Chandana Bakshi, senior mental health worker and psychotherapist, along with school counsellor, Mrs. Farishta Dastur Mukerji. The sessions aimed at creating a safe space for the team to be able to share their concerns, if any; as well as to focus on team bonding and stress management. The sessions were fruitful and much appreciated by all the participants.



Caring Minds

Mrs Nayar was invited by Mrs Minu Budhia for lunch on Saturday, 5th August at 1:00pm at Caring Minds. It was an opportunity to meet and interact with Telegraph T2 on the initiative of Love you zindagi of which Mrs Nayar is an active partner

POSH SESSION FOR THE ECA COACHES

On 25th August 2023, an exciting and informative training session was held for the ECA coaches of our school. The training focused on POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment) and was conducted by a team of experts in the field.

The training session began with a presentation on the importance of POSH training and the legal framework surrounding it. The coaches were then provided with detailed information on the different types of sexual harassment, how to identify them, and how to effectively prevent them. The session also included a discussion on the role of coaches in creating a safe and respectful environment for students. The trainers also provided the coaches with practical tips and techniques for addressing incidents of sexual harassment.

Overall, the POSH training was an invaluable experience for our ECA coaches. It not only provided them with the knowledge and skills necessary to prevent and address incidents of sexual harassment but also highlighted the important role they play in creating a safe and inclusive environment for all students



Positive Parenting Workshop

School counsellors, Mrs. Farishta Dastur Mukerji, Mrs. Spriha Patronobis and Mrs. Sukonna Halder, conducted Positive Parenting workshops with parents of Primary and Junior Sections to address various age appropriate concerns that children experience at different levels.

While the concerns of the Primary level essentially revolved around routine, structure, screen time, handling behavioural and emotional challenges, reinforcements for positive behaviour, parents of Grades 3-5 shared concerns related to digital wellbeing, gadget overuse and its impact on discipline, parenting strategies to monitor the online space, the importance of parent-child conversations and responding to queries about gender. The interactive sessions enabled the parents to share their experiences and build on their parenting skills through a process of experiential learning.



Awards and Accolades

It gives us immense joy to share that Mrs. Pratima Nayar, Principal-Junior School was felicitated with the Outstanding Leadership Award by EGN - Education Growth Network at the Honoring our Education Heroes ceremony at The Taj City Center, New Town, Kolkata.



**Mrs Nayar
receives the
Outstanding
Leadership
Award**



Chess Tournament Champion

Rihansh Pandey of 5A had taken part in a 1 day rapid street chess tournament organised by Bengal Chess Association on 15th August, 2023 at Amherst Street. Rihansh was the tournament champion scoring 4.5 out of 6 points. This was an unrated tournament, so it doesn't affect his fide ratings.

Rihansh had also participated in the Invitational School Chess Championship organised by the Bengal Chess Association at the Acropolis Mall. He stood 3rd overall and 1st in his category (Under11). He received 2 trophies for his awards in 2 categories.



Telegraph School Awards

“It is good to win awards but the most important is to win together.” - N’Golo Kante

CIS has done it again! This year at The Telegraph School Awards for Excellence 2023 ceremony which was held on 19th August, 2023 at South City International School auditorium, CIS's nominations were selected to receive some Special Individual Honours under the below categories:

A. SCHOOL CATEGORY

- Honour certificate for Excellence in Maintenance and Eco-Friendly Initiatives
- Honour certificate for Excellence in Academics (IB Board)
- Honour certificate for Excellence in Extra Curricular Activities

B. INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY –

- Arushi Sanghi - Honour Certificate for Academic Excellence by A Student
- Manan Poddar - Honour Certificate for Academic Excellence by A Student
- Rohan Arya Marda - Honour Certificate for Academic Excellence by A Student
- Yuvraj Agarwal - Honour Certificate for Academic Excellence by A Student
- Advik Harlalka (Athletics) - Merit Certificate for Outstanding Talent in Sports
- Anchit Sengupta - Honour Certificate for Outstanding Talent in Music

C. SPECIAL / INDIVIDUAL HONOUR–:

- Violet Raj - The Shining Star Honour

Heartiest congratulations to Team CISS!!



EDITORIAL TEAM

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and
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Thank you

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