

**Vol - 1**

**September - October 2023**

CALCUTTA INTERNATIONAL



# **CIS HERALD**

**Monthly E-Magazine published by Junior School**



# Table of contents



Newsletter	Page 1
Teacher's Day celebrations	Page 2
International Day of Peace	Page 7
Math Assembly by Primary Section	Page 10
Hindi Diwas	Page 12
A Day to Empower	Page 16
Projects	Page 19
Student Development Programmes	Page 28
Competitions	Page 30
School Social Responsibility	Page 32
Professional Development	Page 35
Awards and Recognition	Page 37



# Newsletter

## Events in October



### Primary Section

**12.10.23:** Puja Assembly

### Junior Section

**04.10.23:** Parenting workshops conducted on Puberty by the Counselors for parents of Grades 3

**04.10.23-11.10.23:** Voices –Junior Section English Public Speaking Event

**12.10.23:** Puja Assembly

**13.10.23:** Last Working Day

**16.10.23:** Puja vacation starts

**30.10.23:** School reopens after the Puja vacations

WELCOME to CIS

We warmly welcome:

Moksh Sureka to Grade Nursery B

Ekansh Sethi to Grade 4 A

Atharv Narsinghani to Grade 4B



# Teachers' Day

*in primary*

Teachers' Day has always been a special day where students play a significant role by making it memorable and meaningful. On this day, students acknowledge the passion and dedication of their educators. They also strengthen the teacher-student relationship.

On 5th September, 2023, the students of the Primary Section had the opportunity to express their admiration and gratitude for their teachers while reinforcing the crucial role they play in their lives.

The young learners showered their teachers with handmade cards, personalized videos, dance, songs and lots of love. The effort put in by the parents to bring a smile on the teachers' faces was appreciated by all.









# To teachers with love...

- from juniors

Teachers' Day was celebrated at CIS on Tuesday, 5th September, 2023 with great enthusiasm. The day began with the learners spending time with their Class teachers and going around the school handing the teachers beautifully hand made cards and flowers. Thereafter the teachers gathered in the beautifully decorated Music Room. From the youngest members of Junior Section to the Senior most students, Grades 1 to 5, presented a variety programme to convey their love and gratitude for their teachers. Their exceptional performances of dance, songs, drama and recitation won the hearts of the teachers who were also made to dance to foot tapping music. The programme was streamed live for the students to watch in the classroom.











After the programme the teachers assembled in the library where they were handed over Book vouchers from Storytellers by Mrs. Nayar. The fun filled day ended with a sumptuous lunch organised by the school management. It was a truly memorable Teachers' Day.

A special thanks to the Junior Student Council members who coordinated and supervised the entire programme. Well done!



# International Day of Peace

If you have only one smile in you, give it to the people you love  
- Maya Angelou

The students of the Primary Section, dressed in white and blue, assembled to celebrate the International Day of Peace on the 21st of September, 2023. Mrs Nayar, Principal- Junior School, Mrs Choudhary, Junior School Section Head encouraged the students by their gracious presence. Mrs Majumdar, Primary School Section Head, welcomed them with a Peace Day badge. The emcees for the day - Mrs Poddar and Ms Razzaque set the tone for the event with their peaceful words. The celebration saw the young learners singing songs and reciting poems on Peace.



The youngest Peace bearers, from Grade Pre Nursery A sang the song 'Peace is the way' and Pre Nursery B sang the song 'I've got peace like a river' as they spread the friendly message of peace, love and joy.





Keyan Saha of Grade Nursery B conveyed the message of peace to his peers. The students of Grade Nursery sang two songs - 'Light a candle for peace' and 'Rainbow song' - as they wished for peace around the world.



Students of Upper Nursery A sang 'If I could write a magic song' - where they hoped to write about things that could cease all hate and war.

The peaceful messengers of Upper Nursery B recited the poem - 'Peace begins with me' and sang the song - 'Kids peace song' - which conveyed how spreading love and kindness let's peace start in all of us.





# International Peace Day - Junior



Grade 1 shared their thoughts on the meaning of peace and how to live in peace by making colourful peace posters.

Grade 2 made Peace hand puppets which they used to spread the message of peace in class. They wrote them on speech bubbles too.

Grade 3 made a peace collage with pictures from an old magazine which for them symbolised peace. They explained their peace pictures. While 3A chose Lotus as a symbol of internal peace and calmness, 3B chose a candle to let the light of peace shine upon the world.

Grade 4 celebrated Peace Day through discussions about the importance of peace, understanding and harmony in the world. They created dove craft and expressed their ideas about Peace



Grade 5 designed unique peace symbols, wrote acrostic poems on peace and also represented it visually to express what peace means to them.

All the students and teachers of the Junior Section came dressed in white or blue on 21st September to commemorate the International Day of Peace.



# First Math Assembly in the Primary Section

The Primary Section had their very first Math Assembly. The learners expressed their appreciation for the subject through a variety of performances.



The day's programme started with the youngest members – Pre Nursery, singing a song on shapes.



Nursery A sang a song on numbers called ‘Ten Little Indians’.

Nursery B marched to the tune of ‘Ants go Marching’ and recited ‘Oscar the Octagon’.







Everyone enjoyed the acting of the students of Grade Upper Nursery in the plays titled ‘Why Are All The Zeros So Sad’ by Grade Upper Nursery A and ‘Waking Up With No Numbers’ by Grade Upper Nursery B. ‘Together we are stronger’ and numbers are the most useful tool in the day to day life without which you are truly lost" was the message displayed. The script of the play was conceptualized by the Math teachers of Grade Upper Nursery.





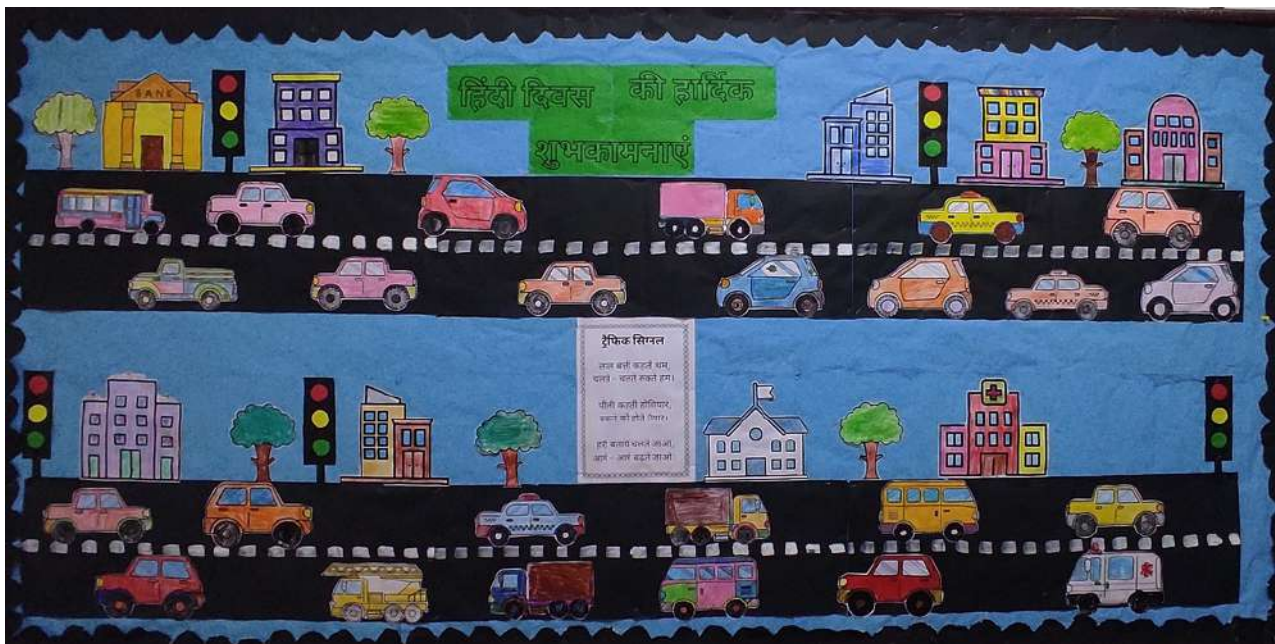
# Hindi Diwas

Celebrating Hindi Diwas on September 15, 2023, was a unique endeavour undertaken by the Language Department of Junior School to promote and popularize Hindi, the most widely spoken language in multilingual India, and a regional language taught in Calcutta International School from Grade 1.

This finely planned and executed event was an initiative by our Language coordinator, Mrs Sushmita Ray. The assembly to celebrate the day was beautifully anchored by the teachers of the Hindi Department, Mrs Tinku Yadav and Mrs Radhika Dhanuka. The collaboration with Drama and Music proved to be engaging and meaningful for the learners of Grades 4, and 5.

The Hindi students of Grades 1 to 5 took part in the event with great enthusiasm.

Grades 1 to 3 celebrated Hindi Diwas week. The teachers of Grades 1 to 3 focused on developing the communication skills in Hindi amongst the learners through various interesting and fun-filled activities such as Word of the Week, Show and Tell, illustrations and recitations of poems and a story telling board of Hindi fables.



Grade 1 learnt about colours and a poem on the Traffic Signal. Grade 2 students recited short poems on the topics – The moon and the moon landing, butterflies, their school and made illustrations of the poems on charts.









In the Hindi Diwas programme, Grades 4 and 5 put up enactments and sang songs to demonstrate their understanding and appreciation for Hindi language and literature.

The students of Grade 4 brought to life stories of Panchatantra, which convey the messages of moral values and wisdom. Their performances were a delightful blend of vivid expressions, animated gestures, and articulate dialogues which captivated the audience.



The Grade 5s learnt about Kabir, one of the eminent poets of Hindi literature and the Dohas written by him. They discovered that the Dohas are simple yet so meaningful in our lives even today. They sang the dohas with clear enunciation and the reverberation of the songs brought about peace and tranquility in the ambience.





It was heartening to see that notwithstanding their limited exposure to the language, the young learners participated in the celebrations wholeheartedly. It was also a great pleasure to see the core Hindi pupils of Grades 4 and 5 speaking the language with confidence.

The celebration of Hindi Diwas in the Junior Section of CIS was thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils and teachers and proved to be a great success. Mrs Nayar and Mrs Choudhary deeply appreciated the effort put in by the teachers and their learners to make the event a success. Mrs Nayar was greatly impressed as she heard them speak fluently in Hindi and sing and explain the Dohas so well. She also appreciated the wonderful display on the boards in the first floor corridor.

We have pledged to take this forward to enlighten our learners about Hindi so that they learn to love and be proud of their mother tongue.



# CAIE Conference

*A day to empower the Educators - CAIE-CLS @CIS*



On 2nd September 2023, Calcutta International School hosted a day-long conference of over 75 educators, administrators and policy makers along with representatives from the Cambridge University Press and Assessment, in a bid to share the learnings of the CIS journey as the oldest international school in the Eastern region.

This event which was divided into two main segments began on a melodious note with a musical performance by a Grade 11 student Auroi Sarkar, followed by a heartwarming welcome address delivered by Principal of the Senior section Mrs. Tina Servaia, which set the tone for the rest of the day. Collaboration with other schools who are already affiliated to the Cambridge curriculum or considering joining the curriculum, is key to progress and growth. This was emphasized as the *raison d'etre* for the event.

The morning session continued with presentations by personnel from the Cambridge University Press and Assessment including Mr. Vijay Balakrishnan, Chief Marketing Officer-India and South Asia, Mr. Lalith Prasad -GE, Head - Professional Development and Training, South Asia, Ms. Arpita Mukherjee, Manager for Cambridge Learning for Schools East India and Mr. Satyajit Sarkar Senior Manager, India East, Bangladesh, and Nepal. These sessions ranged from setting the context for the conference, the need for a progressive curriculum like the one offered by Cambridge University Press and Assessment, the support provided for the schools and educators to deliver this curriculum, as well as the importance of well-being in schools.





The highlight of the morning session was a special tete-a-tete with Mrs Nayar, Principal of the Junior section of CIS and Mrs Servaia. In this conversation, the two dynamic leaders shared the journey of the institution which began way back in the 1950s at a time when ‘International Education’

was not the buzzword it is today. The two speakers provided insights into the various factors that make CIS a true international institution, from the way it devotes itself to imparting learner centric, individualised holistic international- minded education. This heart-to-heart talk was greatly appreciated by the visiting delegates who complimented its engaging format and the enriching content.

The post lunch sessions comprised simultaneous workshops in English, Mathematics and Science which were conducted by the teachers of CIS – employing the Cambridge way of learning with an emphasis on Active learning, Metacognition, Differentiation as well as Assessment for, of and as Learning. The workshops, which lasted an hour, tracked the way in which educators at CIS transition the learners from one grade level to another, consolidating and advancing the concepts they know.

The success of this event lay in the fact that it was one more way in which CIS reached out to the fraternity of educators to facilitate greater cooperation and learning in a bid to improve the teaching and learning process in all schools – Cambridge and Non-Cambridge.





# VIP Project of Upper Nursery



Samaa read a book titled 'Tiger who came to tea' and involved the audience with a quiz about the story.



Prisha taught her peers to bake cupcakes and amazed her peers and teachers with her singing skills.



Parth enchanted the class with the recitation of Shlokas and his yogic postures inspired everyone.





Mishka shared her childhood memories and played the piano as her fingers moved lightly over the keys.



Nishant confidently swayed and danced to the song he loves after speaking about himself and his family.



Shaurya mesmerised the class as he played the keyboard like a perfectionist and showcased his cricketing skills.

Avyaan read a story to his friends and his drawing skills were appreciated by one and all.







Kabir shared his chart which had glimpses of him growing up. He dressed up as a dentist and spoke about how we can take care of our teeth and maintain oral hygiene.

Simone spoke about herself from her birth till date sharing her pictures. She spoke about an aircraft and its parts using a model.



Atharv shared his talent with the 'Hula Hoop'. It was quite nice to see him use it with ease and perform tricks on the music.

Darsh explained his chart which consisted of pictures from his birth till date. He demonstrated a few basketball dribbling techniques and performed a dance on a patriotic song.





Ishanjit surprised us with his memory of identifying flags of 95 countries along with the names of the capital cities. He has won accolades and awards for the same which he shared with his classmates.

Divisha had made a unique cake with pictures to share her precious moments. She impressed us with her dance performance.



Gamya performed a short dance for her friends after explaining her chart.



Garvansh explained his chart and then narrated the story of Ramayana to his friends. He also spoke about the different characters in the story and seemed impressed by Kumbhakaran !



# Intra-disciplinary Collaboration



## *Celebrating friendship and togetherness*

Raksha Bandhan is a glorious jewel in the rich tapestry of Indian festivals. It symbolises the unbreakable bond between siblings who share an array of emotions and pledge to stand by each other during tough times.

Students of Grades 1, 2 and 3 who study Bengali engaged in an interclass collaborative activity on 6th September 2023 to celebrate Raksha Bandhan. They tied self-made Rakhis around the wrists of their peers and teachers. The idea behind the activity was to emphasise the fact that Rakhi not only symbolises the love between siblings but is also a representation of friendship and universal brotherhood.

The event was planned as an interclass collaborative project to highlight the importance of being friends with one another and supporting each other at all times irrespective of the grades the students study in.

Languages Coordinator, Mrs. Ray coordinated the entire event and supported the teachers – Mrs. Sarkhel, Ms. Datta, Mrs. Mukherjee - and the students with her able guidance and feedback. The event was graciously attended by Mrs. Nayar and Mrs. Choudhary, who provided their valuable insights and appreciated the students and teachers for the fabulous presentation.

During the programme, the students shared interesting anecdotes and historically significant facts about how the celebration of Raksha Bandhan was initiated and how important it is.

- Students of Grade 2 traced back the origin of the festival to the Mahabharata and spoke about Draupadi tying a shred of her saree on Krishna's index finger, when he got injured and was bleeding. It was that day that Lord Krishna pledged that he will always be there to protect Draupadi, whenever she will be in trouble.
- The young learners also shared that Rabindranath Tagore called for a demonstration of people's unity during the Partition of Bengal in the year 1905, by asking them to march out and tie Rakhi around each other's wrists.





# "Go Green. Breathe Clean: Better Environment. Better Tomorrow"



The popular slogan was put into action by the youngest member of the vertical collaboration of Grade 4, 7 and IB1 for the kitchen garden on 13th September 2023. Learners of Grade 4 planted saplings of brinjal, papaya and green chillies in the vegetable garden developed at the backyard of the school. Learners were happy and excited to plant the saplings with their peers to observe the growth and life cycle of a flowering plant.





“Green Warriors” group was created and members were facilitated with the badges. They pledged to take care of the garden along with the gardener of the school and share their observations with their friends.



Seeds of okra and bitter gourd were also given to the learners to encourage them to start their own kitchen garden at home hence promoting a greener and cleaner environment.





# Developing the skills of Public Speaking

As a part of preparation for the upcoming public speaking event, Voices, Oindrilla Pal of Grade 10 held sessions with Grades 5A and 5B on the 19th and 21st of September, 2023. It was an interactive session where students clarified their doubts and gained knowledge about the basic tenets of good debating skills



Olympiad: The International GK Olympiad was held on 21st September, 2023 in which students from Grades 1 to 5 took part in large numbers this year too.

# Vedic Math Workshop

## *Math made easy*

A Vedic Math Workshop was organised for Grade 4 and Grade 3 on 20 th and 22 nd September. Mr Gaurav Tekriwal, President of the Vedic Math Forum Of India conducted the session. Mr. Tekriwal is the founder president of Vedic Math Forum India. As an educator, he has been imparting high speed vedic mathematics skills over the past twenty years across the globe.

The session for the learners of Grade 4 focussed on the strategies to remember tables as well as quick multiplication strategies. It also covered strategies to calculate square numbers quickly. The session with the learners of Grade 3 focussed on fast techniques of addition, subtraction and multiplication which children can apply to cross check their work. At the end of the session children shared how these easy math techniques or Sutras as known in Vedic Mathematics can make calculations really easy for them.





# Puberty Sessions

School counsellors, Mrs. Spriha Patronobis, Mrs. Farishta Dastur and Mrs. Sukonna Halder conducted awareness sessions on Transitions during puberty for students of grades 3-5. For grades 3 and 4 the discussions were mostly centred on the pre-adolescent stage, what changes students can expect as they move closer to puberty and why it is a critical phase of development for the human body. On the other hand, Grade 5, being older and in the midst of their pubertal transitions, engaged in more in depth conversations about menstruation, internal and external changes in their bodies, development of primary and secondary sexual characteristics, the emotions associated with these changes, and to normalize the same. Although the sessions were conducted separately for boys and girls (of each grade), so as to have more relevant discussions about one's own body, all students were helped to develop insight on the changes that their peers of the opposite gender undergo. This was done to create more sensitivity and empathy towards others going through different pubertal changes. Overall these interactive sessions created a safe space wherein students felt comfortable to clarify their doubts.



# IIHM Eastern Region Young Chef India School/Young Chef-junior competition

*Bon appétit!*

On September 22nd, 2023, the International Institute of Hotel Management (IIHM) organized the Eastern Region Young Chef India School/Young Chef-junior competition at CIS.

Held in the school premises, the competition provided an excellent platform for these young chefs to showcase their culinary skills. Five students of Grade 5- Aarav Jain, Ahaan Agarwal, Ishir Jhunhunwala, Krishnav Marothia and Mayank Arwal took part in the preliminary round from the Junior Section.



The young chefs presented their dishes with confidence, impressing the judges with their innovative ideas and presentation skills. They answered all the judges' questions with ease, showcasing their knowledge and passion for cooking.

The judges appreciated the hard work and dedication of the students, encouraging them to continue pursuing their passion for cooking. It was a wonderful learning experience for the students involved. The event highlighted the importance of encouraging young talent in the culinary arts.





# Just Sport it



Indus Valley World School successfully hosted an interschool sports event on the 29th of August, 2023. The event saw participation from 19 schools. Seven students of the Junior Section participated in the chess and yoga competitions with great enthusiasm.

Some of our students were participating for the first time in a sports event and it was an incredible experience for them. They learned new skills, made friends and had a great time. Overall, it was a fantastic opportunity for our students to showcase their talents and represent our school. We are proud of all our participants and look forward to many more such events in future.



## **Chess:**

Arjun Bagaria  
Utkarsh Gupta  
.Avyukt Agarwal  
Rihansh Pandey

## **Yoga:**

Divisha Kejriwal  
Yuvan Agarwal  
Ashray Kandoi

# Hope in Every Thread

## *Chaddar Drive for Antara Mental Hospital & quot*

In a heartwarming display of compassion and community spirit, the students of Pre-Nursery to Grade 5 of Junior School recently took part in Chaddar drive for Antara mental hospital, Baruipur, weaving threads of hope into the lives of patients battling inner demons.

With the support of dedicated teachers and enthusiastic peers, the students collected an impressive array of fresh bed linens, blankets, and towels.

The GM of the Antara Hospital, Mr Biji Alexander visited the school along with two other social service workers on Wednesday, 20th September. They interacted with a few of our students from Grades Pre-N to 5 and the chaddars collected from the Junior School were handed over to them.

The smiles on the faces of both the students and the hospital staff were a testament to the impact of this small act of kindness. It provided a glimmer of hope and warmth to those going through difficult times, reminding them that they are not alone in their journey to healing.





Dear Ma'am,

Greetings from Chaddar team!!!

We would like to thank you, the teachers and students of Calcutta International School for a successful contribution made to Antara Global Mental Hospital, Baruipur on 20th September. They were overwhelmed at the generosity of the students and also like to thank the school for their support.

During the visit of Antara officials to your school, they were happy to note that the school is keen to start other donations like contributing for meals on students' birthdays, and giving new clothes for the long term patients before the Pujas. The other offer made which would be a huge help for their Work Therapy Unit is to sell their items by having a stall at various events of the school.

We look forward to your support to Antara Global which is one of Chaddar's enlisted NGO. Please do let us know when it would be feasible for a visit to Antragram and we will be delighted to give you an experience of the work that has been going on for the past 5 decades.

Thank you once again for your support in contributing to this particular society of people and to enrich their lives. Your support is essential to such communities and their well-being. I missed being present at this event in view of my exigency travel but I hope to be there at the next one!!!

With best wishes,

Sangeeta

SANGEETA MUKHERJEE  
FOUNDER OF CHADDAR

# Humanities

## *Collins Workshop on Global Perspective*

On September 4, 2023, Calcutta International School hosted a highly informative and engaging workshop on Cambridge Global Perspectives, facilitated by Dr. Elaine Higgleton, International Publisher at Collins Learning, and Mr. Nikhil Pant, a Collins Resource Person. The primary objective of this workshop was to introduce Cambridge Global Perspectives as a multi-skill course and to discuss effective ways of implementing it in schools.

The participants included educators, school administrators, and curriculum coordinators of well-known schools in Kolkata. Mrs. Tania M Roy, Ms. Bidisha Mukherjee and Ms. Poulomi Banik participated on behalf of Calcutta International School. The participants gained a comprehensive understanding of the Cambridge Global Perspectives course and its relevance in developing critical thinking and research skills. Attendees explored innovative teaching and assessment techniques to enhance student engagement and assessment in the Global Perspectives program.

The workshop also fostered collaboration and networking among participants, providing a platform for sharing best practices and experiences.





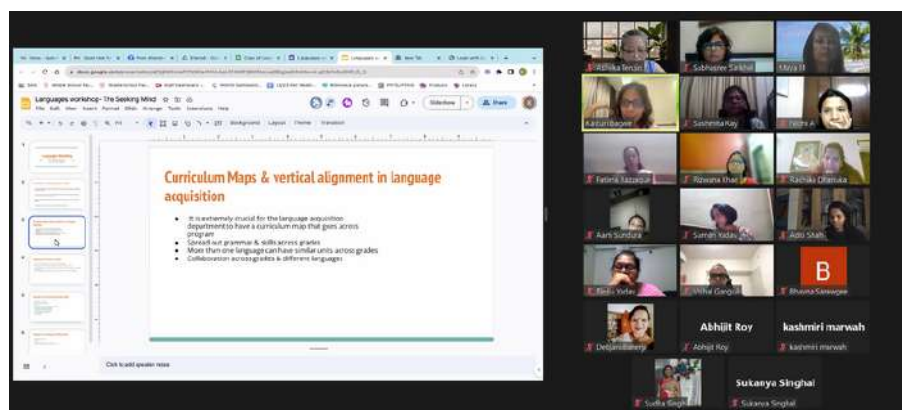
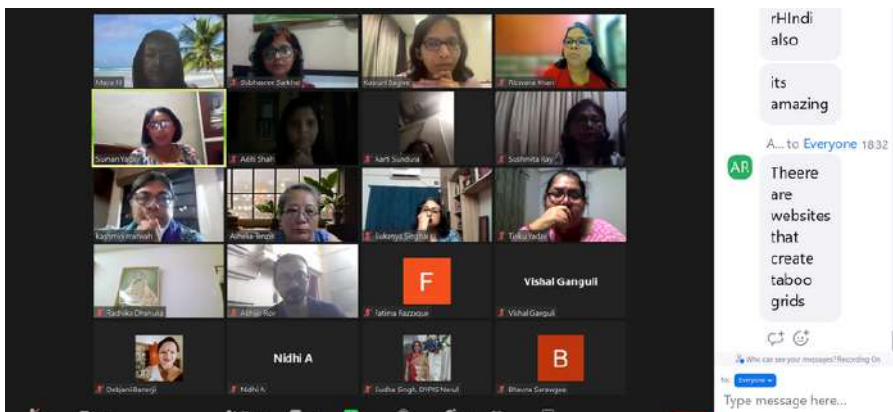
# Language Workshop

## *Best Practices in the Language Acquisition Classroom*

On 26th of August 2023, 'The Seeking Minds' conducted an online workshop on Best practices / strategies and tools for acquiring the 4 skills in the Language acquisition classroom. The workshop was attended by Mrs, Sushmita Ray (Language Coordinator - Junior School), Mrs. Sukanya Singhal, Mrs. Tinku Yadav, Mrs. Subhasree Sarkhel, Mr. Abhijit Roy, Ms. Fatima Razaque, Ms. Kashmiri Marwah, Mrs. Bhavna Sarawgee and Mrs. Radhika Dhanuka.

In this session, the workshop facilitators shared useful tools and strategies with the help of which language acquisition teachers can incorporate culture seamlessly in their units. It was an enriching session in which the facilitators shared their best practices, which have worked well in their own classrooms.

The second session on 9th September 2023 was the mentoring session in which the facilitators of the workshop responded to the queries of the language teachers of CIS. The session was interactive and the CIS teachers actively participated in the discussion.



# Awards and Recognition



Mrs. Pratima Nayar, Principal - Junior School presented with the “**Nation Builders Award 2023**” for her assiduous and unwavering efforts towards shaping the academic development, mentoring and enablement of students by Open Arms Educational & Charitable Trust in association with rotary Club of Calcutta Quest on 9th September, 2023.



A proud moment for CIS as Mrs. Nayar receives the ‘Principal Par Excellence’ Award at the **IIHM Teachers’ Day Awards 2023** Ceremony.

We are proud to announce that Mrs. Antara Banerjee has been awarded the IIHM Teachers’ Day Awards 2022 for her outstanding contribution as an educator in the holistic education and development of the students at CIS.





## Down memory lane

The Principals of CIS, Mrs. Pratima Nayar and Mrs. Tina Servaia warmly received Mr. Ed Watson, an alumnus of CIS during the time of Ms. Barths (1962-1967)

## Felicitations!

The Officers of the Anandapur Police Station felicitate Mrs. Pratima Nayar with flowers and good wishes on the occasion of Teachers' Day on 5th September 2023



# EDITORIAL TEAM

**Mrs Sharmila Majumdar, Mrs Neelam Choudhary,  
Mrs Subhasree Sarkhel , Ms Kashmiri Marwah,  
Mrs Rashi Poddar and Ms Ritu Agarwal**

*THANK you*

Follow us on



<https://www.facebook.com/calcutta-internationalschool>



<https://www.instagram.com/calcutta-international.school/>



<https://www.calcuttais.edu.in>



<https://cisezine.blogspot.com>

