

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER
2023-2024

The background of the newsletter cover is a photograph of the Calcutta International School building. The building is a modern, multi-story structure with a white facade and large windows. A large, leafy tree stands in the foreground, partially obscuring the building. In the lower left, a group of students and staff are gathered on a paved area. In the lower right, a soccer goal is visible on a grassy field.

CALCUTTA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

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AUTUMN ASSEMBLY

An Unforgettable Autumn Gathering: Music, Dance, and Smiles Galore at CIS

“AUTUMN – THE YEAR’S LAST LOVELIEST SMILE...”



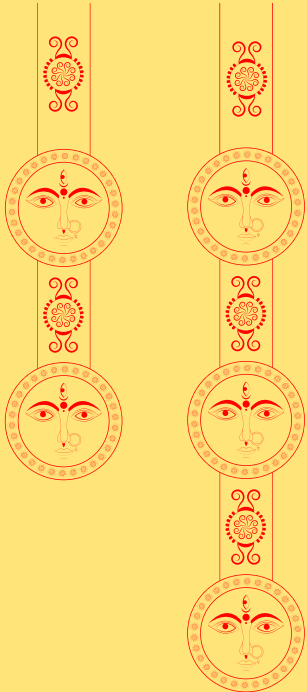
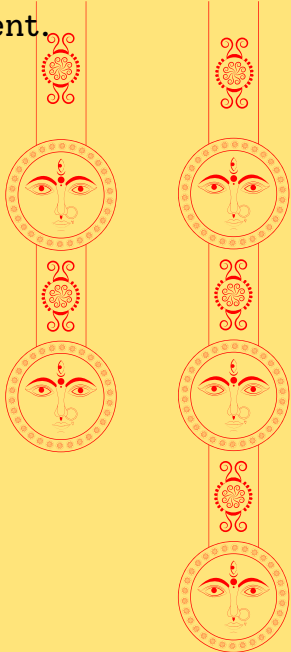
The assembly began with an audio-visual presentation on the celebration of Autumn in different cultural contexts of the world. This was followed by a soul-stirring medley of songs, each one celebrating the fervor of Autumn, including an invocation to the Goddess. The musical journey took the audience from the ethereal mood of Fall with a popular French song to the energetic rhythms of Garba, a traditional Gujarati dance form. The cultural immersion continued with a mesmerising recitation of a Bengali poem by Rabindranath Tagore. Students from Grade 9 and AS took center stage with captivating dance performances on traditional folk songs showcasing Garba and Dandiya that left the audience spellbound. The fashion show segment was a true testament to the students' creativity and sense of style. Students from grades 9, 10, and A2 showcased their fashionable side and walked the aisle to resounding cheers from the audience that comprised students from grades 6 to 12.

On 13th October 2023, the Autumn assembly brought the spirit of the season to life with resounding beats of the dhaak, twirling dhunuchi flames, and an overwhelming sense of shared festivity. The students of the senior school came together to welcome the upcoming festive season in style, through an array of cultural performances.





As the final act, the sounds of the Dhaak reverberated in the butterfly area, infusing the atmosphere with energy and excitement. The finale was orchestrated by Ms. Suvasree Banerjee who arranged for the Dhakis. Middle and senior section students and teachers broke into impromptu dance moves, creating a jubilant and spirited conclusion to the event.



DAAN UTSAB



On October 13th, the entire middle section joyfully organized the Annual Daan Utsav in collaboration with Hope Kolkata Foundation.

Each student from Grades 6 to 8 partnered with a buddy from Hope Kolkata Foundation, spreading cheer by sponsoring clothes, groceries, educational supplies, and toys, along with personalized wish gift cards for their buddies' Durga Pujo.

The event featured an incredible dance performance by the children of Hope Kolkata Foundation, an interactive session imparting the values of compassion and giving, and a heartwarming gift exchange.

We are immensely proud of our students for their impactful contribution to the lives of underprivileged children.





→ 13

→ 13 A



FILM NEGATIVE

FILM NEGATIVE



→ 14

→ 14 A



FILM NEGATIVE



→ 13

→ 13 A



FILM NEGATIVE

FILM NEGATIVE



→ 14

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FILM NEGATIVE

Spanish Delegation

Another feather in CIS's cap!



The Ministry of Education, Government of West Bengal selected Calcutta International School as a learning centre for the Spanish Language in the city. A delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain, the Embassy of Spain in India and the Instituto Cervantes Madrid, and New Delhi visited the school along with the Principal Secretary, School and Higher Education Department, Govt. Of West Bengal, IAS officer Mr. Manish Jain, Mr Abhijit Mukhopadhyay, Senior Special Secretary Higher Education Department, Govt. Of West Bengal along with other official delegates from the state. The school team headed by Mr. Koushik Dutta, General Manager CIS, extended a warm welcome to the delegates, greeting them with traditional baluchari uttoriyo. The welcome address was delivered by Mr. Abhijit Roy after which our students felicitated the guests.



The Spanish students of Grade 5 sang a lively Spanish song 'Vivir Mi Vida' much to the delight of the delegates who sang along with them. Some of our Spanish students, Syra Krishna Modi of Grade 5, Ananya Almal of Grade 6 and Shome Deepto Sarkar of IBDP Year-I provided insights into the Spanish curriculum, classroom activities, and their learning journey. The interaction between the delegation and the students was engaging and the delegates were most impressed with the fluency with which our students expressed themselves. The officials appreciated the displayed work of the students and spoke to many of them about their future plans. The delegates extended their gratitude to the Government of West Bengal, the teachers, and the students for the wonderful event. Overall, the event was a harmonious blend of cultural appreciation, warm hospitality, and meaningful dialogue between the delegates and the school community.

BOOK DONATION BY LIBRARY

SPREADING JOY ONE BOOK AT A TIME

Weeding out old books and making space for new titles is an important feature of any library. At CIS, there were a large number of books to discard and instead of selling it to the scrap dealer for a pittance, the books were donated to students who were in need.

Although the books were outdated, they were in usable condition, and the decision to donate the books was inspired by an article in The Telegraph asking for book donations for CMC schools. VIP Nagar KMCP school was selected and they received around ten cartons of books which left them overjoyed. This initiative has brought joy and learning to underprivileged students and has supported educational activities for the school.



Clothing Drive

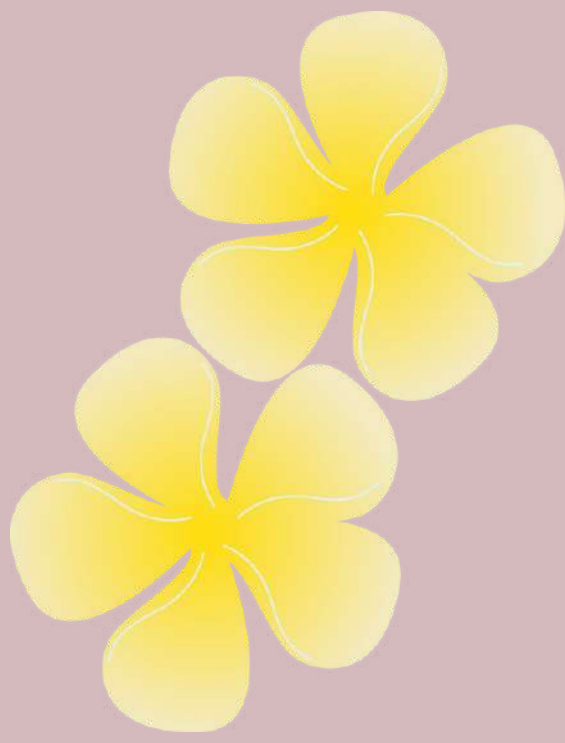
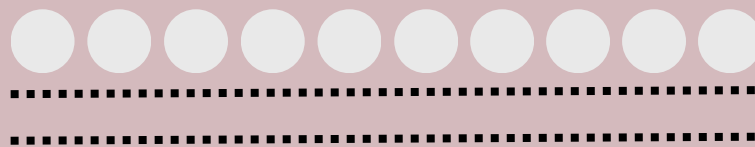
Bringing Joy to the Festive Season

“I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver” - Maya Angelou



The joy of sharing and giving to others is unparalleled and to usher in the festive season, Eimi Yuasa and Rajanya Deb, of Grade 8A, in collaboration with Mustard Seed Kolkata, organised a Clothing Drive in school from September 25th to 30th, 2023. Students were encouraged to delve into their closets and cupboards and look for items that could be shared with others and they rose to the occasion with gusto. The collected items, ranging from clothing to household goods and children's accessories, illuminated the Durga Puja festivities for recipient families. We applaud our students' exceptional efforts and eagerly anticipate more such impactful, student-driven initiatives!



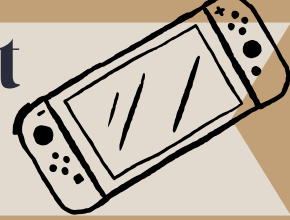


STUDENT - DRIVEN



Computer Science Club Event

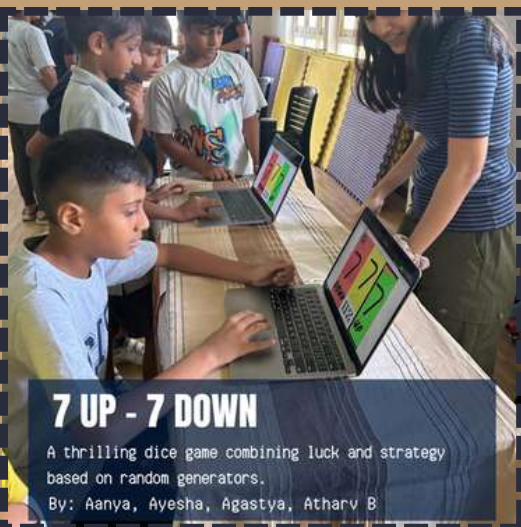
Coding and Camaraderie



In an electrifying display of skill and camaraderie, the Computer Science club of CIS recently hosted a sensational gaming event that left students buzzing with excitement. On September 15th, talented senior and junior students joined forces for an exciting game development event. After school, from 1:20 pm to 2:00 pm on a Friday, custom-designed games coded during club meetings were brought to life and shared with students from grades 6 to 12 in the IGR.



The event "Game-on," brought together gamers and coders of all levels and backgrounds for a day of intense competition and fun. Curated and designed by students of the Computer Science club, the competition had a variety of games including popular titles like 'Flappy Bird' to friendly matches of Finger-Pong (a ping pong game played with your own fingers and recorded using sensors). There was something for everyone to enjoy as the event not only showcased the competitive spirit of the students but also fostered teamwork and most of all programming skills!



START

PLAY

Swayam Achievement

Swayam Session on Personal and Peer Boundaries



On 12th October, Swayam conducted a session with Grade 7 where the focus was on distinguishing between safe and unsafe touch, also known as 'good touch and bad touch.' The discussion highlighted the potential for actions that may be perceived as jokes but could actually violate personal boundaries.

The students engaged in paired activities to demonstrate how individual boundaries differ, using instructions like "neck to neck" or "toes to toes." Key takeaways emphasised the importance of respecting boundaries, understanding that everyone's boundaries are unique, and the significance of the concept of "no means no."



The session stressed on the need to speak up and report uncomfortable situations, regardless of gender. The session also aimed to raise awareness and educate with activities reinforcing boundary recognition and addressing incidents within the class.

**i honor my
boundaries**



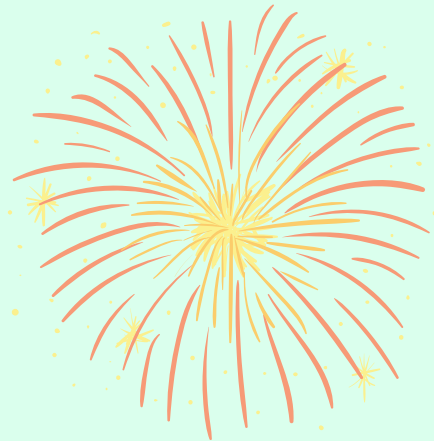
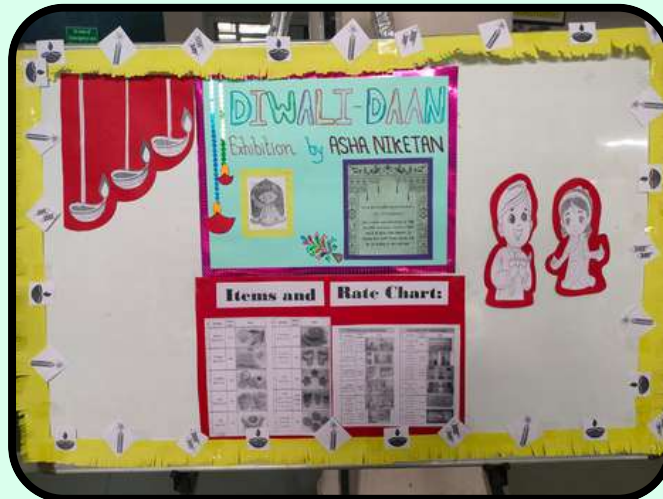
AS Counseling Session

The school counsellors conducted an ice breaking session for students of AS and A2. The purpose of the session was to step outside known peer groups and interact more closely with students across sections and grades, to develop better interpersonal skills and social integration.



Diwali Daan

In the spirit of celebrating Diwali, an NGO named Asha Niketan dedicated to promoting cultural exchange, organised a vibrant pre-Diwali exhibition on 6th and 7th November. The event aimed to bring together the community by showcasing traditional art and crafts, and raise awareness about the NGO's charitable initiatives. The exhibition featured an array of exhibits, including traditional Diwali decorations, rangoli patterns, handcrafted diyas (lamps), and colorful artwork. The NGO used the platform to raise awareness about its charitable activities. One could learn about the NGO's efforts to provide education and support to underprivileged children and families, and many donated to support these noble causes. This event truly embodied the spirit of Diwali, which is all about spreading joy, light, and hope. With our help and support, they collected almost Rs 10,500 and were grateful for this endeavor.



Interact Club celebrating Diwali

"It is not how much we give but how much love we put into giving"



The dasas and didis of CIS work silently and seamlessly round the clock to ensure that CIS functions smoothly and efficiently. Thus On 10th of November 2023, Interact Club students arranged an event to express their gratitude to the support staff of the school - and what better time to express heartfelt gratitude than during the festival of bright lights!



The middle section students painted diyas and the senior section Interactors packed sweets as a token of appreciation which were then distributed amongst the dasas and didis as a wonderful gesture to appreciate their hard work and spread joy and happiness.

Interact Club Investiture 2023

On 11th September, the Interact Club of Calcutta International School (ICCIS) welcomed its new board and members during its investiture ceremony. The previous Interact club president and members of the parent organisations, Rotary Club and Rotary Calcutta Victoria were invited to mark the 8th installation ceremony of ICCIS and felicitate the newly appointed office bearers.

The elected members of ICCIS for the year 2023 - 2024 are as follows:

President - Tejas Bharadwaj

Vice President - Praanjay Gupta

Treasurer - Advik Harlalaka

Secretary - Srishikha aKr Purkayastha

Director of Club Services- Karan Jhunhunwala

Director of International Services- Umeed Uriyan

Director of Community Outreach- Yas Somani

Director of Professional Development- Aadvy Nathany

Congratulations to the new board members of the Interact Club of Calcutta International School and may they continue to spread joy while making a difference in the community.







Mera Basta: "It is not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving."



'Mera Basta' - A collaborative initiative by IBDP Year 1 students Dhvani Gupta, Parnika Dalan, Ruhi Chitra, Hiya Chitra, Annuska Mallik, and Saamyas Sinha - is an ongoing social initiative aimed towards aiding underprivileged children in their journey of education. In the context of the inspiration behind the project, one of the members stated, "With great power comes great responsibility, and with great privilege comes great social responsibility. As IB students, they have continuously been inculcated with enriching values that have constantly encouraged them to consider the societal impact of their actions. These enlightening realisations inspired them to initiate 'Mera Basta' - a schoolwide social initiative as the intended CAS project." The main goal of 'Mera Basta' is to supply children in need with bags and school supplies to aid them through their journey of pursuing education.



'Mera Basta' intends to execute two more such collection drives, with the aim of conducting the second drive from 4th January, 2024. The initiative hopes to extend the collection process to other schools and beyond the boundaries of local communities to inspire further such projects in the future and exponentially increase collections to spread a myriad of precious smile.



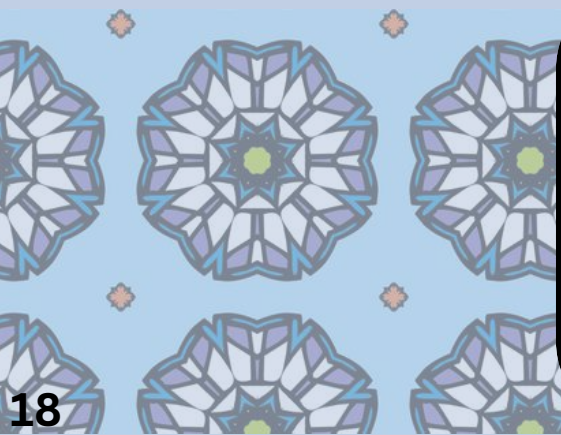
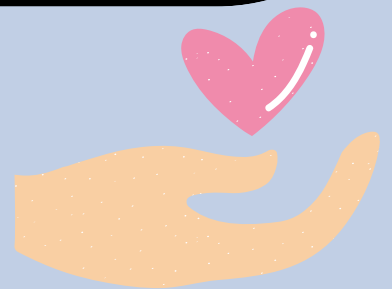
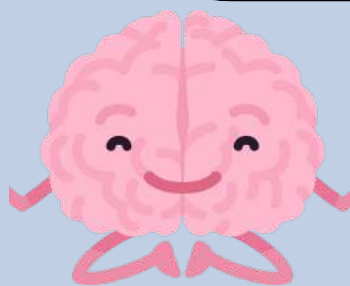
To achieve these goals effectively the first distribution process was segmented into three phases: collection, restoration, and distribution. The first phase of the plan was executed by collecting old bags and stationery supplies within the school through spreading awareness about this initiative by displaying posters within classrooms and hallways and addressing the students regarding the collection drive which extended from the 11th September, 2023 to 11th October, 2023 during which students donated old bags and other relevant supplies to the cause. Each of the members also collected old bags and stationery by spreading awareness about the cause within their local communities to stimulate community engagement and maximize collection for the benefit of the project. The collected bags were then restored and distributed among children of grades three to eight from Vani Sadan Primary School in Lake Gardens, during the puja vacations to facilitate them with proper resources to assist them in their educational journey.



World Mental Health Day Celebration

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY CELEBRATION IN CIS

On the 4th of October, the psychology students observed World Mental Health Day, and it served as a significant reminder of the importance of empathy and support. This event was guided by Mrs. Debalina Mitra Chatterjee, the Head of the Department, Humanities and Psychology faculty, and Mrs. Amrita Nandy, a member of the Psychology faculty. During this occasion, they took the initiative to organise an awareness program within the school, mainly focusing on students.



Action for Well-Being Inclusivity in Education

Action for Wellbeing (AWB) is an initiative with a resolute mission to sensitise educators across school and university settings to cultivate awareness amongst all stakeholders about the complex tapestry of gender and sexuality diversity spectrum.

The founder members of AWB, Mr. Suraj Tomar and Mr. Abhishek Dey visited CIS on 17th November, 2023, to create awareness on Gender and Sexuality through interactive workshops.

After an invigorating discussion with the Principals, Section Heads and School Counsellors, the resource persons met with some of our senior section students who are part of the student council and/or PRISM club, to talk about creating inclusive spaces in school through peer support.

Thereafter, Mr. Dey and Mr. Tomar had an engaging and enriching session with teachers and administrative staff of the whole school on the 'Role of School Systems in Building Gender Sensitive and Inclusive Spaces for All Stakeholders' – a workshop that not only enlightened teachers and staff on gender and sexuality but also perhaps enabled us to unlearn some of our conditioned thoughts and ideas about the same.



As a pioneer among schools that nurtures gender and sexuality education among students from a young age, this was a step forward in empowering students, teachers, and staff to continue in our endeavours towards empathy and respecting diversity.



Children's Day

Children's Day was celebrated on 30th November for middle and senior students with great aplomb and enjoyment. The day began with a series of joyous performances by all the teachers and cheered on by students from grades six to twelve. The program commenced with a melodious rendition of 'Young Ones' by Cliff Richards sung by both middle school and senior school teachers who dedicated the heart-rendering lyrics to their beloved students.



This was followed by two 'lazy dance' performances, a new dance form in which one's expression and props brought much gravitas to this unique dance form. As the programme progressed, the students were entranced by a traditional dance performance followed by an Indo-fusion dance like no other. Our multi-talented teachers concluded the program with a fashion show, borrowing themes and styles from Hollywood, Bollywood and even popular culture! The students in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the program as was evident from their cheers and applause for their lovely teachers.



The students also received snacks and refreshments throughout the day with a popcorn stall, cotton candy and other sweet treats and snacks which were distributed at intervals. Games were also played in each class for which prizes were given much to the entertainment of all the students. This was truly an enjoyable day for all students as well as teachers who went the extra mile to show their love and appreciation for all.

Education World Award



CIS Has Done it Again!

It gives us immense pleasure to share that CIS has been ranked in the Education World India School Rankings 2023-24 under International Day Schools as West Bengal #1 and Kolkata #1. Heartiest congratulations to Team CIS!

Basketball Tournament



The M. P. Birla Foundation Higher Secondary School recently hosted the highly anticipated Basketball tournament 'HOOPS 2K23.' The tournament took place from 6th October, 2023 to 12th October, 2023 and witnessed the participation of both boys and girls basketball teams from various schools.

In the Boys section, out of the twelve teams that competed, the CIS boys team displayed exceptional skills and secured the second position, emerging as the Runners-up. Yash Bagchi, stood out with his remarkable performance and received the Highest Scorer award.

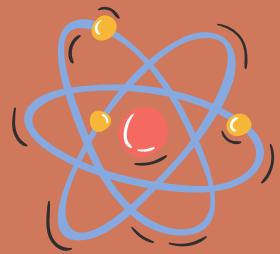
The Girls section was equally exciting, with eleven teams playing for the championship title. The CIS girls' team proved their mettle and clinched the first position, becoming the champions of the tournament. Mihiri Basu Mahagama was awarded the Most Valuable Player for her outstanding contributions throughout the tournament. Another standout player from the team, Gita Basu Mahagama, received the Highest Scorer award for her exceptional scoring abilities.

Congratulations to all the players for once again showing their remarkable performance

Relativity- Labore Et Scientifica

Inter-School Science Fest

On 24th November, 2023, La Martiniere for Boys, Kolkata showcased its enthusiasm for Science by organising a Middle School Inter-school Science fest named Relativity. Students from twenty-four schools exhibited an array of innovative projects, showcasing their scientific acumen and creativity. The event provided a platform for budding scientists to not only display their projects but also engage in insightful discussions with peers and educators. The spirit of curiosity and exploration was palpable, fostering a dynamic learning environment. This participation not only highlighted the school's commitment to nurturing scientific curiosity but also underscored the students' dedication to exploring the wonders of science. Some of the events included a 'Mathletes' mathematics quiz, 'Quarks and Quirks' which exhibited short skits based on scientific topics, 'Sciencescape' in which students created innovative models and 'Robomania' in which the robotic aficionados showed off their skills and talents. Winning was not the aim of the day, but collaboration and learning took center stage as our middle school students dazzled with their scientific knowledge.



Poster Presentation Competition at UEM

On 17th November, 2023, Granthana and Shriyadita Sengupta from IBDP Year II recently participated in a poster presentation competition on advancements in Biotechnology at the University of Engineering and Management, Newtown. The focus of their presentations was the revolutionary CRISPR-Cas9 technology. The event provided a platform for the students to showcase their in-depth research on CRISPR-Cas9, its applications, and ethical considerations. The IBDP Year II students were recognised for their contributions, demonstrating a deep understanding of the subject. The visit not only allowed them to present their work but also provided valuable opportunities for learning and engagement with peers and professionals in the field. Overall, the experience was a resounding success, highlighting the dedication and academic excellence of the students and fostering enthusiasm for future exploration in biotechnology.



Congratulations!

International Teachers' Day



On 5th October, 2023, teachers from Secondary school participated in the celebration organised by The Teachers' Centre at the Indus Valley World School on the occasion of International Teachers' Day.

The program started with an address by Mr. Ian Theodore Myers (President of The Teachers' Centre), followed by performances from different schools of the city. Our teachers presented a program with choreographed group dance on group song with interludes of recitation on the theme 'Rhythmic Waves' - based on Rabindranath Tagore's compositions.



The event was a wonderful experience for all teachers and we look forward to the same in the coming years!

Stronger Together



The Special Educational Need (SEN) Dept of CIS has chosen to celebrate Dyslexia by increasing awareness, focusing on the student community, which is considered the most significant stakeholder in promoting inclusion.

On 31st October, students from the Calcutta International School (CIS) came together to participate in a meaningful walk to support Dyslexia awareness. This inspiring event was organised by Manovikas Kendra in partnership with the Maharashtra Dyslexia Association and USENCO. Grade 8 students and members of the Junior Section Student Council demonstrated their commitment to inclusivity, empathy, and a brighter future for individuals living with Dyslexia.

Dyslexia, a condition that affects reading, often goes unnoticed and misunderstood. The walk served as a powerful symbol of solidarity with those facing this challenge. As one of the participants eloquently expressed, "Dyslexia is not a disability; it's a different ability."

The enthusiasm and dedication to raising awareness and support for Dyslexia by the students was truly commendable. They embodied the belief that every individual, regardless of their learning differences, deserves the chance to shine. This walk was a small yet significant step toward a more inclusive and understanding society. It reminded us all that, as a community, we can make a positive impact when we stand together for a cause that matters.



Exploring Cultural Bridges: A Transformative Exchange Program in the Netherlands



In the crisp autumn days of early October, students from Calcutta International School embarked on an eventful journey to the Netherlands, joining hands with their counterparts from Alfrink College for a transformative exchange program. The venture unfolded over ten days, providing a unique opportunity for cultural exchange, collaboration, and personal growth.







The diverse group of participants, from both institutes met at The Hague, where the accommodation was situated, at the town of Zoetermeer, home to Alfrink College. The primary aim of the exchange program was to engage in a collaborative project with Alfrink students, focusing on vital issue of defending human rights that encouraged a cross cultural dialogue.



As part of the itinerary, the team from CIS visited the Mauritshuis Museum, featuring masterpieces like "The Girl with the Pearl Earrings, ". They engaged with a Colombian human rights activist and participated in an acrobatic workshop. A leisurely walk around The Hague set the stage for a photo challenge, capturing monuments related to human rights. Afternoon activities at Filmhuis involved the creation of short films on human rights topics. A visit to the concentration campsite Vught highlighted the historical context of human rights while the historic city of Delft beckoned, offering visits to cathedrals and churches. A photo challenge capturing traditional Dutch art, notably Delft art, provided a cultural snapshot. Finally, a journey to Amsterdam, exploring the city, visiting a modern art museum, and a scenic canal ride created memories of a lifetime.

Besides academic engagements, daily visit to the supermarket and lunch and dinner outings at The Hague were relaxing and rejuvenating for the students. In essence, this exchange program transcended academic boundaries, offering students an immersive understanding of human rights issues and cultural nuances. The journey provided not only intellectual growth but also fostered personal development, independence, and lifelong connections between students from vastly different corners of the globe.



Trip to Yercaud

good trip



From 3rd - 8th November, fifty-seven students from grades 7 and 8 along with four teachers embarked on a trip to Yercaud that was organised in association with INME. Nestled in the Shevroy hills, the students spent five days amidst the beautiful landscape and participated in various activities ranging from rock climbing, jumaring and hiking to developing their outdoor survival skills. The students had no network or connectivity which allowed them to disconnect from the outside world for a while and focus on improving their interpersonal skills with their peers. This trip was indeed a memorable experience for all!





Students' Achievements

THE PSYCH-ED FORTIS QUIZ



On 12th October, Psychology students of CIS participated in the Zonal finals of the Psych-ED National quiz, organised by Fortis under the able guidance of teachers, Ms. Debalina Chatterjee and Ms. Amrita Nandy. The students earned their spot in the finals by successfully clearing the online preliminary round, ultimately achieving the second runners-up position.

The quiz covered a diverse range of psychology-related questions, encompassing various facets of the subject. This was an incredibly intellectually stimulating and exhilarating experience that provided students with the opportunity to further expand their knowledge in the field.



IIHM Young Chef

Young chefs at Work



The International Institute of Hotel Management (IIHM) recently organized the Eastern Region Young Chef India School/Young Chef-junior competition, which involved eleven young boys showcasing their culinary skills. The competition was held on the school premises and provided an excellent platform for these budding chefs to display their talent and creativity.

The young chefs impressed the judges with their innovative ideas and presentation skills, and answered all the questions posed to them with ease. The judges appreciated the hard work and dedication of the students and encouraged them to continue pursuing their passion for cooking. The event was a fantastic experience for everyone involved, and it highlighted the importance of encouraging young talent in the culinary arts. It is heartening to see such young boys displaying such passion and enthusiasm for cooking, and we hope that this competition will inspire more young people to take up culinary arts as a career.



ECA Activities: Junior NBA Tournament



The RF Jr. NBA National Championship held at Jaypee Greens Sports Complex in Greater Noida from 14th-17th September, 2023, witnessed participation from talented students from across the country. The tournament included regional champion teams competing against each other, providing a great platform for the young basketball enthusiasts to showcase their skills.

The tournament helped the young talents to mature and become more sincere, building up their confidence even higher. It was an excellent exposure for the students who love and want to learn the game of basketball. Overall, the RF Jr. NBA National Championship was a great success and provided a great platform for the young basketball enthusiasts to showcase their skills.



Among the participants were Srijato Das, Yuvan Pawa, Hredaan Raj Bihani, and Advay Bansal, of grade seven who put up a great show in the CIS Under-12:Boys category. The team won four matches against Ludhiana, Pune, Kochi, and Kottayam in the group league and reached the quarter-final round. The boys played as a team and put their best effort in every match, making the national championship a great learning experience for them.





Aakash Majumdar, our distinguished alumnus who juggles careers in Marketing and Music speaks to us about what inspires him.

1. Can you share a memorable experience from your time at our school that had a significant impact on your personal or professional development?

I remember my experience as Red House Captain preparing for the Annual Swim and Sports meet. Maharshee Karia, my vice captain, and I spent hours poring over our house's heat times and best possible combinations for relay races, and for the first time in 8 years, won both events by handsome margins. We were also incredibly blessed to have many talented athletes in our house - that in combination with detailed preparation and concentration helped us achieve our goals. Translating that to life today, I still maintain a high level of attention to detail in my both my professional and personal pursuits, and together with a little luck, it has helped me along the road.

2. How did your education at our school prepare you for your current career?

My time at CIS was equally spent in class and in extra curricular activities. Having to balance my time from early on has helped me immensely in managing two parallel careers. During the day, I work as a Marketing Manager at a global energy firm, and I also have a music career based in Nashville. It's tough to balance sometimes without compromising either pursuit, but my experience from my CIS days still proves useful.

3. What advice do you have for current students who are preparing to enter the workforce or pursue higher education?

Focus on community. The educational and vocational aspects will be integral to your pursuit, but the people around you are equally, if not moreso, important. The meaningful connections you make with your peers, mentors, coworkers, and bosses not only foster a good professional environment, but can pay dividends along the road. My career in energy came about through some wonderful friends and mentors I made at my time in business school at Rice University. Build and use your network - and make sure you pay it forward!

4. Can you discuss a challenging situation you faced after graduation and how your education here helped you navigate it?

During my time at CIS, a lot of my teachers emphasized out of the box thinking - especially our statistics teacher at the time, Mr. Sabyasachi Mitra. In a largely standardized environment, it was always nice to be encouraged to pursue unconventional wisdom. This framework of thinking really helped during college and business school, as many problems often required a non-traditional approach. While a lot of my peers had to adjust their approaches during these situations, I felt like I was a few steps ahead because of my experience at CIS.

5. In what ways have you stayed connected with the school since graduating, and why do you feel it's important to maintain that connection?

I am still in touch with many friends and some teachers. They are all an important part of my journey and who I am, and continue to hold that role in my life. No matter where I've moved across the United States, or visited Kolkata, there's always a piece of home, and people I can turn to for counsel, or simply a good time.

6. How has the industry or field you're in evolved since you graduated, and how have you adapted to these changes?

Unsurprisingly, the progress of AI has accelerated at breakneck speed. It has affected both my careers in energy and music. It's important to stay abreast of developments while staying conscientious of the use of AI. LLMs like ChatGPT and Google Bard can make daily tasks and content generation easier, but a human touch remains irreplaceable. I try my best to stay aware of the conversation around AI and the ethics of its use.

7. Are there specific extracurricular activities or initiatives at our school that you believe contributed significantly to your overall growth?

I really enjoyed the graphic design program I was part of for a few years, as it helped further my visualization skills, which I use on a daily basis in my energy and music careers. In energy, it helps me engage clients by empowering me to organize and deliver key information in the best possible way, and for music, it allows me to develop and stay consistent with my branding.

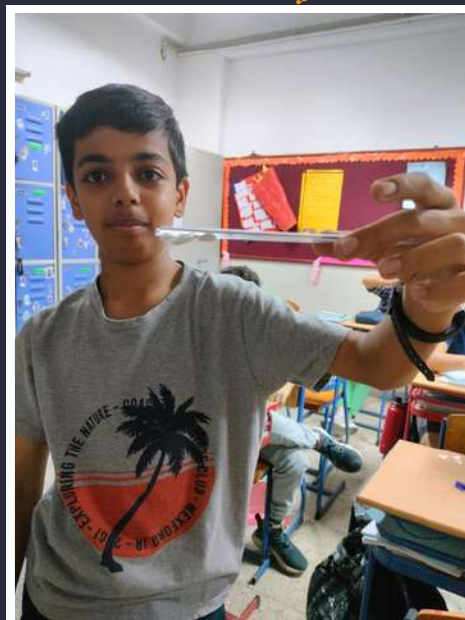
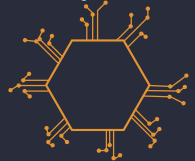
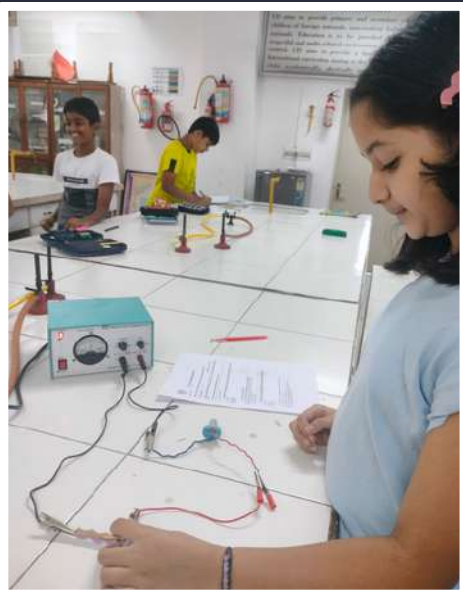
Teachers' Activity

MATTER-ENERGY NEXUS: THE PHYSICS -CHEMISTRY ALLIANCE

Collaboration between Physics and Chemistry



In the exciting journey through the realms of science, students have delved deep into the fascinating worlds of physics and chemistry, where matter and electricity intersect. This collaboration is a result of the combined efforts to unravel the mysteries surrounding the fundamental concepts, designed for Grade 6 students by Ms Payal Agarwal and Mrs. Aditi Bhattacharya. Through exploration of Physics and Chemistry Grade 6, students have discovered the fundamental concepts of matter and electricity and have learned how matter comes in various states and has distinct properties, while electricity flows through circuits, powering our world. Understanding the intersection of matter and electricity helped the students appreciate the wonders of science all around us. Children were shown the working of a circuit and flow of electrons through various conductors and insulators around them, like their hair clips, an eraser, a wooden ruler etc. Let us keep exploring and asking questions, for there is so much more to discover in the captivating realms of Physics and Chemistry!



VERTICAL COLLABORATION SCIENCE

Growing Together: Empowering Future Stewards Through Organic Farming and Environmental Awareness



A collaborative project involving ESS students of IBDP Year I, Grade 4 and Grade 7 commenced with an introductory session focusing on organic farming and composting. The IBDP Year I students contributed vital resources, such as seed packets and a jar of organic compost from a previous IB batch, to facilitate their experimental endeavor. The students have taken the necessary steps to create a suitable environment for their project and have initiated close monitoring of their plant's growth. To systematically gather data, they've established a data collection table and developed a PowerPoint presentation to consistently record their ongoing observations.

In a parallel effort to promote environmental awareness and sustainable practices, Grade 7 students, named themselves as the "Green Guardians" and took forward this endeavour and focused on sowing saplings for organic farming on their school campus. This collaborative initiative not only enriched their understanding of organic agriculture but also solidified their commitment to a greener and healthier future. The Green Guardians have gone the extra mile by creating placards and posters about organic farming to raise awareness among their peers. They've also sown various vegetable seeds at their homes and are diligently tracking their growth.

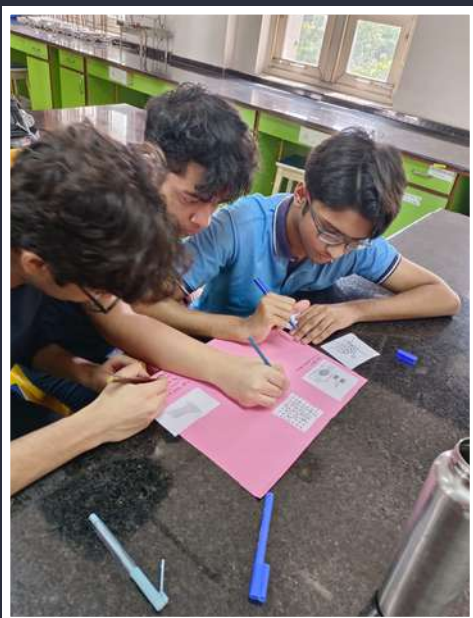
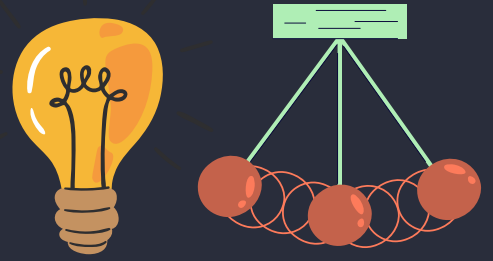




GRADE 12 PHYSICS

Grade 12 (A2) participated in an activity in their Physics lesson named 'Silent Discussion' followed by a gallery walk. The students were divided into groups and each group was given a chart paper and a few pictures. Students were required to identify the pictures and relate it to the current Physics theory learnt. They had seven minutes to complete the task and at the end of the allotted time, students took a gallery walk to the tables of the other groups. They then studied what was done by the other groups and added their input. After returning to their table they had another five minutes to reflect on what was done and what other points could be added further.

The most important rule of the game was that the students were not allowed to speak during the activity.



Chemistry: Elementary Explorations: Crafting a Unique Periodic Table

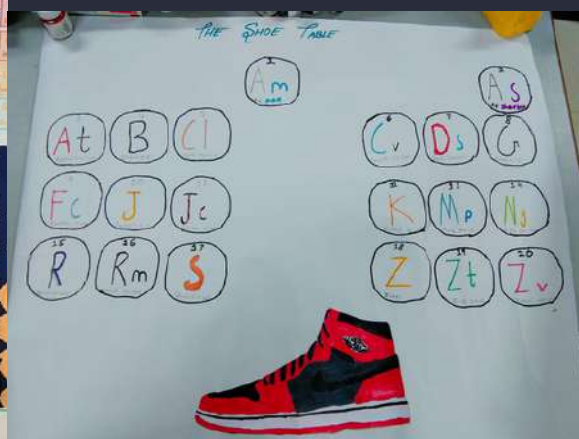


Grade six is learning about elements and the Periodic Table this term and it is necessary for them to understand the various patterns in which the elements are arranged in the periodic table. To achieve this understanding, the “ Design Your Own Periodic Table Project” was devised.

Exemplary creative ideas born out of the minds of these young chemists was evident in the amazing topics chosen for developing their individual periodic tables. Colourful and informative, the periodic table developed by the students was displayed on the hallway bulletin boards.

Students selected a theme that contained at least twenty ‘things’ that could be arranged into a periodic pattern in different ways after which they then created a Periodic Table of the items. For example, a student created a Periodic Table of musical instruments for which he represented each family member as a different type of instrument (woodwinds, horns, strings, percussion) and the periodicity was maintained by the instruments’ range with the largest range at the top of the family and the narrowest range at the bottom of the family.

The students have created Periodic Tables for various themes ranging from Marvel and Harry Potter characters to types of cereal, sneakers , basketball and cricket players.



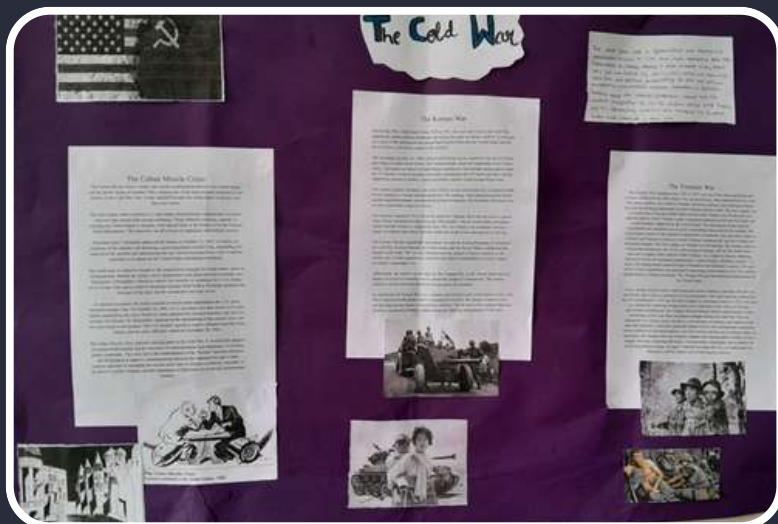
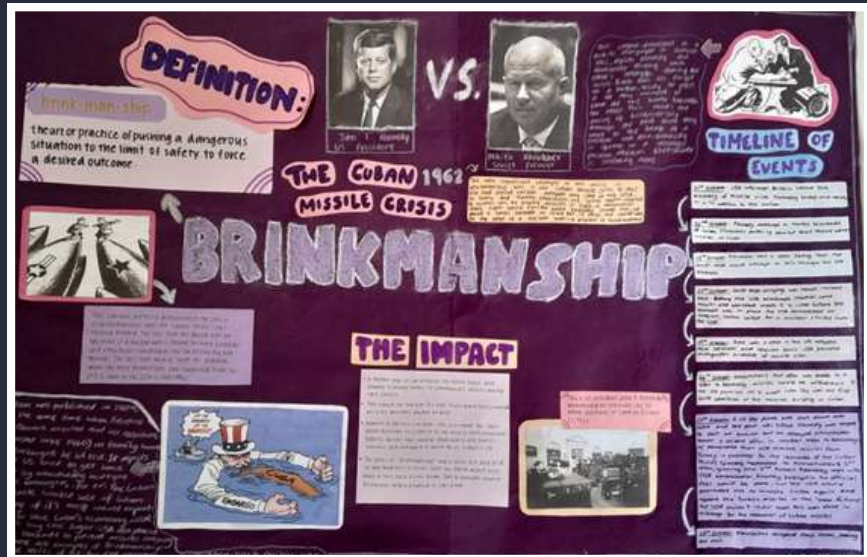
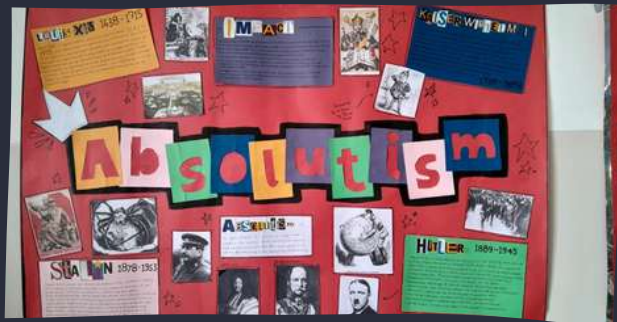


HISTORY



Students of Grade 10 History, Band 4 and 5 under the able guidance of Mrs. Sanjukta Bagchi participated in a chart exhibition in September 2023. It was a group project, with each group choosing their topic which included a key word which they have been familiar with in 20th Century history.

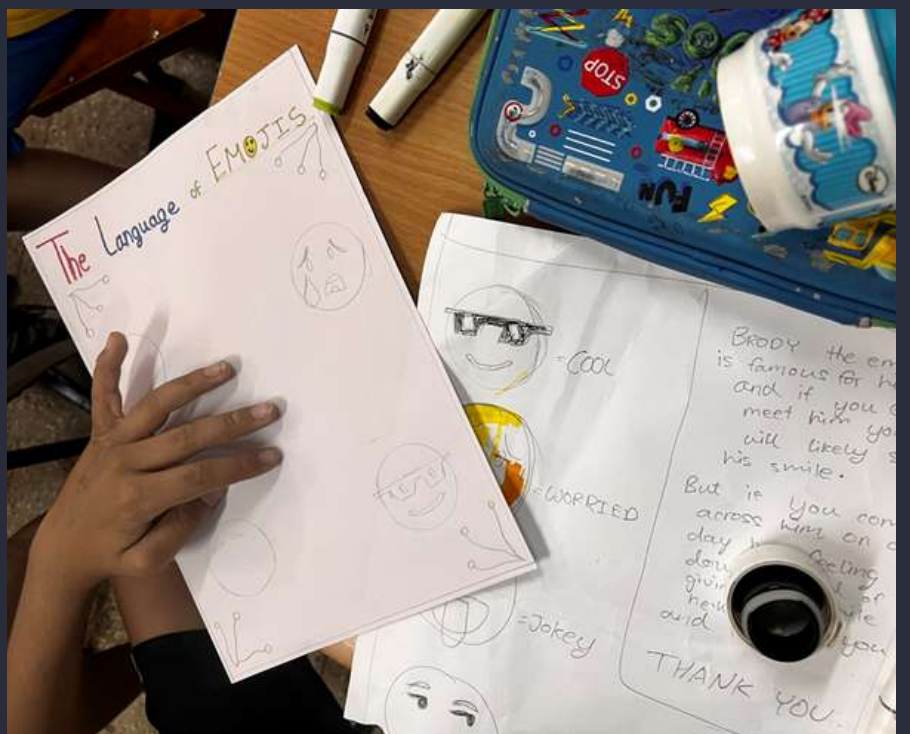
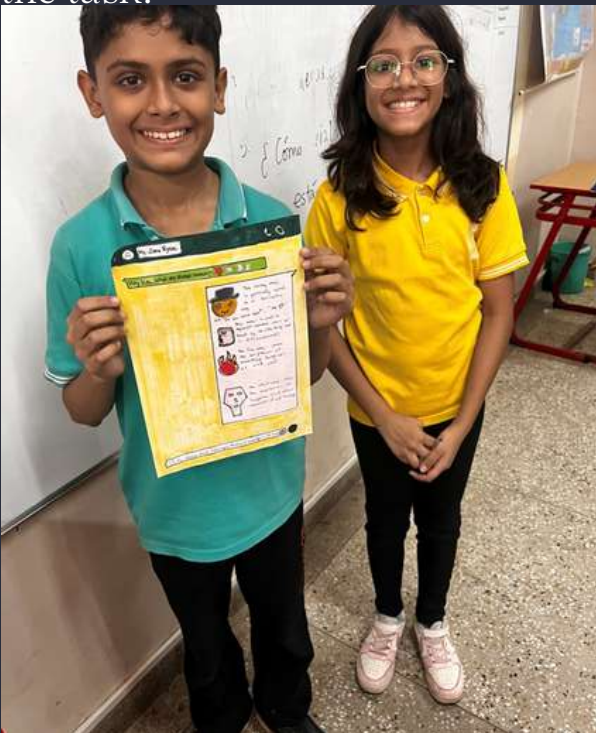
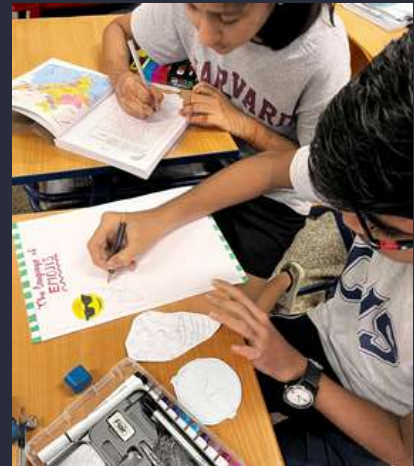
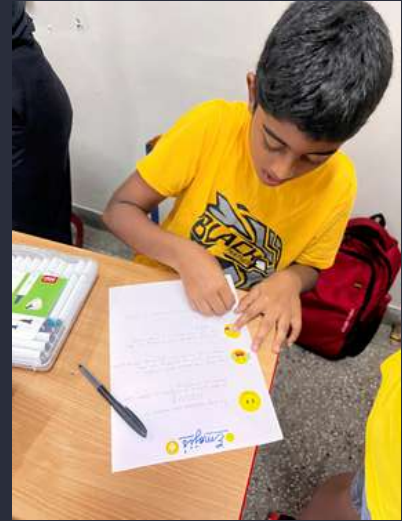
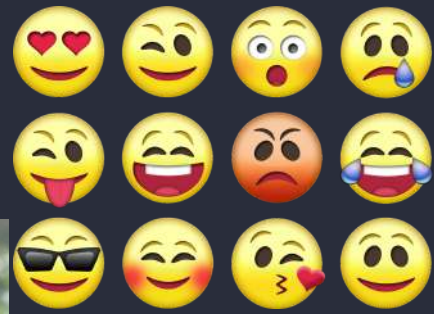
The planning, execution and presentation of the key word project was done entirely by the students. The work was displayed in the classroom which looks like a mini-gallery, with its vibrant and colourful charts.



GRADE 6

THE LANGUAGE OF EMOJIS

The students of Grade 6 engaged in a creative and enjoyable activity as part of their alternate assignment for English Language, titled 'The Language of Emojis.' Students were divided into pairs and were required to select four emojis of their choice and then write the implicit or intended usage and meaning of each emoji according to them. It was a collaborative activity that produced some truly interesting explanations as to our usage of a particular emoji. Some new definitions were even created that added to the excitement of the task!



:: A Celebration of Bengali Literature ::



In order to highlight the stalwarts of Bengali Literature, Mrs. Aruna Mukhopadhyay, undertook the initiative to celebrate the birthdays of eminent Bengali personalities every month. On the occasion of Pandit Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar's birthday on 26th September, students prepared charts to commemorate the work of this Indian educator and social reformer who played a significant role in the Bengal Renaissance. Apart from modernising education in Bengal he also championed the cause of women, fighting for their right to education, protesting and removing the restrictions on widows and advocating and establishing the Remarriage Act.

Sukumar Roy is also another phenomenal writer, contributing a number of unique and exceptional poems and stories, written from the depths of his one-of-a-kind imagination. On the occasion of his birthday on 30th October, students created posters with pictures and hand-written facts which they researched, and found most interesting about Sukumar Roy.

