

VOLUME I, ISSUE 1
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ECHOES

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Dear Readers,

It is indeed a pleasure to share my thoughts in the School Newsletter published by the student led Editorial Team. In this edition, the Senior School students of CBSE Board has maximised their creative freedom for sharing their personal reflections, artistic strokes, participation in awareness programmes, hands on learning sessions, skill building exercises, participation in different competitions and covered all that made their learning experience holistic, integrating the cognitive aspects of learning including the emotional and spiritual experience.

I appreciate all the students who have contributed to this Publication, a novel form of communication and the Editorial Team for carefully crafting to make the reading engaging for the Readers.

Happy Reading
Syamali Chowdhury

INSPIRATION FROM MAHATMA



“Strength does not come from winning. When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, that is strength.” quote by--Mahatma Gandhi.

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was a 'Mahatma' not just for us Indians, but the rest of the world too. To a majority of Indian youth, Gandhi may have seemed relevant only in the last century. They may reason that his principles worked in a different era. However, what they don't realise is that moving away from the principles of honesty, non-violence and truthfulness has led the world to become a difficult place to live in.

Let me share with you all, some of his principles and see if we can try to imbibe of few. Firstly, 'Satyamev Jayate' or 'Truth always triumphs'. Secondly, 'an eye for an eye will make the whole world blind'.

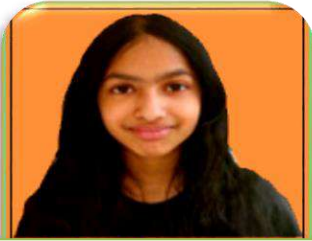
Today, we suffer from anger fits and other frailties. It is a cause for a number of social problems like bullying, abuse and road rage leading to numerous crimes, which are followed by years of regret. We fail to realise that anger and hatred can never help achieve anything. Their outcomes have always been negative.

Thirdly, 'forgiveness is nobility', Forgiveness is a trait of the strong, not the weak. Fourthly, 'eat simple food in the right quantity. Fifth, 'Cleanliness is next to godliness'. Sixth, 'be the change you want to see in the world'. You can never force your teachings on others unless you follow what you preach. Last one is the mind is stronger than the body. Youngsters need to realise that physical endurance is important, but mental strength is crucial.

“If we are to reach real peace in this world, we shall have to begin with children”.

Mahatma Gandhi.

Words Whispered in the Ears of Mother Nature



Asha Gummadi-9E

Mother nature,
You are fair and green
for all the thing
that you have given me,
the tall trees,
flowers so bright,
the birds that sing,
all bees that light.
The Sun that shines,
rain that showers,
the wind that blows,
snow that hails,
the rivers clear,
the oceans deep,
that fish which swims,
all whales that leap.

Familiar Warmth



Kairavi Jalan-10A

Not the ones whose blood courses through your veins,
But the ones whose love and affection caress your cheeks,
Not the ones who leant on and used money as a weapon,
But the ones who impart upon you the values of life.
Not the ones who hiss at every step you take, right or wrong,
But the ones who sing you a lullaby to sleep every night,
Not the ones who abandon you to your own company,
But the ones who worship your dreams as their own.
Not the ones who build you a counterfeit personality,
But the ones who peel off your shield to reveal your inner self,
Not the ones who deceive you, blame you or bamboozle you,
But the ones who take the blame and trust you more than themselves.
Not the ones whose words blind you to the world's harsh reality,
But the ones whose words are the light to your darkness.
This is my family!!!

RISE AND SHINE

TOXOPHILITES

This academic year, archery has been introduced for students of Grade 8 to 12! This initiative aims at providing students with diverse sporting opportunities and promoting physical fitness, mental focus, precision and sportsmanship. Through archery, students will develop physical, mental and social skills, contributing to the overall growth and take part in an engaging and comprehensive educational experience



Health Rights on World Health Day

Students of Grade 10A hosted a special assembly on the World Health Day, centered on the theme "My Health, My Right." The assembly emphasized the importance of prioritizing health and advocating access to quality healthcare services. The theme highlighted various aspects of health as fundamental rights, including education, safe drinking water, nutrition, and freedom from discrimination. A skit focused on the impact of diet on brain health, highlighted the importance of healthy eating. Fitness challenges were also conducted to underscore the significance of regular physical activity. Overall, the assembly aimed at raising awareness about health rights and inspiring positive lifestyle changes among peers.



The UN French Language Day

Students of Grade 7 to 10 celebrated UN French Language Day, emphasizing multilingualism and cultural diversity. They showcased their French language proficiency through skits, songs, and discussions, highlighting its significance and celebrating French culture. Ms. Hima Bindu G., an expert in French language, shared insights on language enhancement. The event fostered appreciation for French heritage and emphasized the importance of multilingualism and cultural diversity in a global context.



INTER SCHOOL TIGER FEST

The Inter School Tiger Fest was a vibrant celebration of wildlife conservation, particularly focusing on “the endangered tigers”. The event featured speeches, dance, poetry, and presentations highlighting the importance of preserving our natural heritage. The prize distribution ceremony for the competitions conducted, recognized outstanding talents, motivating participants to continue advocating for wildlife conservation. The event concluded with a reaffirmation of commitment towards environmental stewardship, leaving attendees with a renewed sense of purpose.

Overall, the fest aimed at igniting environmental activism and fostering a spirit of conservation among participants.



SELF DISCOVERY

SHOW & TELL

The students of Grades 1 & 2 were part of the Show and Tell, Inter House Competition where they showcased their oratory talents and creatively expressed their thoughts about different kinds of emotions. The students used innovative ways to describe a positive or negative emotion using posters, emojis, soft toys etc. The activity was an opportunity to embrace the varied emotions and it helped our learners build their social, emotional and language skills.



SLOGAN WRITING



Our young open minds unleashed their creativity in the ultimate battle of words! "Igniting Minds, Inspiring Change, and Spreading Awareness" for Mental Health, they enthusiastically participated in our electrifying Inter-House Slogan Writing Competition!

Let's inspire, uplift, and break the stigma together!

SPELL BEE



Our school was buzzing with activity when we geared up for our Inter House Spell Bee Competition specially designed for Grades 3 and 4 focusing on Physical Health.

The spellbinding performances of our young spell bee champs gave us a glimpse of their knowledge and understanding of the vocabulary on health and wellness. It was a fantastic display of healthy competition coupled with enthusiasm and fun! Keep shining bright, and remember, health is wealth!

Seriate Water Level Activity



It's like a poem, their understanding grows. In this simple activity, knowledge overflows.

From tallest to shortest, they order with delight, Seriating water levels, their curiosity takes flight.

Stretching Truths: Tall Tales

Students dived into a world of wonderful memoirs at the Tall Tale Competition! Young writers of Grade 7 and 8 expressed their wild imagination in the Inter-house Competition with creativity spinning epic yarns. They crafted tales around the theme Social Health and Wellbeing!



International Day of Happiness



“Be so happy that when others look at you, they become happy too.”

The International Day of Happiness, also known as World Happiness Day or Happiness Day, is observed on March 20 every year. The day's goal is to make the world a kinder and happier place by encouraging people to practice simple, daily happiness habits. The International Day of Happiness was celebrated by students of Grade 1& 2 with extreme delight. The activities commenced with a conversation with students on the importance of Happiness in our lives. The students, then created a Happiness Wall by writing down things that made them happy.

World Water Day



“One Good Action Repeated A Million Times Creates Global Change...!”

Our students of Grade 1 and 2 celebrated World Water Day, focusing on the importance of fresh water and advocating for the Sustainable Developmental Goal 6 ‘Clean Water and Sanitation’. Wearing hand bands, they sang and danced to the tunes of water themed songs to spread the awareness.

They also attended a Spark Speak session conducted by Kartikeya Vankenini, the Head Boy.

"Dawn of the Wild"

The book launch of the young author **Samhith** of Grade 5, was undeniably an exhilarating event! From the grand inauguration of "Dawn of the Wild" to a captivating chat show and inspiring words from the author, it was a celebration of creativity and the enchantment of storytelling.

The event marked an incredible achievement for our budding author from Grade 5. Join us in congratulating **Samhith** for this remarkable accomplishment!



“Education is an ornament in prosperity and a refuge in adversity”.

Aristotle

NEW DAY, NEW BEGINNING

The New Academic Year began with a bang! As the kids entered the school, the excitement began! The corridors were once again buzzing, as the students arrived for the new academic year. The sparkle in the eyes to meet their new friends and teachers was quite evident. The faces of the young learners lit with a beaming smile and enthusiasm to explore what's waiting for them in the new class. They were excited to take on new challenges, foster new friendships, and enjoy the new adventures of this academic year.



The young students were warmly greeted by the teachers who had planned a plethora of activities for the day. They enjoyed getting clicked around the photo booth, going on a shape hunt, introduced to them in a unique way and loved the engaging skit presented by the teachers on act of kindness. Our young learners are ready for the new academic year to take on new adventures and embark on the journey of collaborative learning. They are ready to conquer this school year like a boss. Let's make it a great one! Here's to a successful and fulfilling year ahead!

A NEW DAY TO EXPLORE



It was a whirlwind of emotions as the little ones embarked on their first day of kindergarten! From the nervous excitement in the morning to the adorable goodbyes in the afternoon, every moment was filled with so much love and anticipation. It's incredible how quickly they adapt, making new friends and diving into activities with such enthusiasm. Here's to a year filled with learning, laughter, and endless adventures!

GIC: DESIGN THINKING

An amazing session for unlocking creativity with design thinking and problem-solving for grades 4 to 8 was organized in collaboration with Better by Design and T-Works under the Great Innovation Challenge 2024.

Students brainstormed and explored how Mowgli (human) stands out from other animals with his intelligence, knowledge, and ideas, sparking countless inventions. Ultimately, defining innovation and discussing its need.

Challenges were lined up for the students to innovate and eventually successfully complete the main challenge of building a tall tower to support a 1-liter bottle, reaching new heights of at least 75cm. Creativity reigns supreme!



DO and LEARN

G2-EVS-SenseOrgans

"Life is a symphony of sensations, and our senses are the instruments that play the melodies of our experiences."

The children of Grade-2 explored and learnt more about our amazing sensory organs through the Sensory Game Activity where they observed several objects and colours, listened to the sounds from different objects, smelt various perfumes and scents, detected the primary tastes and touched and felt different textures giving them hands-on experience.



GRADE 1 ELA BRIDGE COURSE ACTIVITIES

PAINT AND DISCOVER

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire".

- William Butler Yeats

In our bridge course, Grade-1 students embraced ELA activities by participating in phonics hopscotch and flipped sight word eggs with zeal. Collaborative ball tosses unveiled the magic of family words, while blend pictures on petals enhanced blending skills. Digraph challenges through toss-the-ball activities ignited a passion for language exploration. These dynamic activities not only honed language skills but also fostered teamwork and sparked curiosity, igniting their love for learning.



In the open air, kindergarten kids embrace the canvas wide.

With brushes and paint, they embark on a colourful stride.

Underneath the vast sky, their creativity takes flight,

As they paint the world around them with pure delight.

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go".

Dr. Seuss

Nature Collage

With glue-sticky fingers and eyes full of wonder, Kindergarten kids bring the outdoors in, as they plunder.

Nature's treasure trove to create art so divine, In their nature collages, a masterpiece they shine.



BASE TEN BLOCKS

The only way to learn mathematics is to do mathematics. - Paul Halmos

The students of Grade 2 had hands-on learning experience in Math Lab understanding how to represent numbers using Base Ten Blocks'. They made use of the Base Ten Blocks to represent two-digit numbers by separating them into hundreds, tens and ones. Through this activity; the students gained the ability to confidently visualize numbers. This not only made Math more enjoyable and fun for the students, but also fostered the development of logical reasoning skills in them.

PLACE VALUE-LAB ACTIVITY



Our Students of Grade1 enjoyed the Math through hands-on experiences, interactive games, and collaborative learning in their Math Lab. They not only grasped the concept of place value but also developed a love for exploring mathematical ideas in a creative and enjoyable environment. The enthusiasm and confidence displayed by our students were truly inspiring!



ICT MUD ACTIVITY



WASHING HANDKERCHIEF ACTIVITY

In the kindergarten, little hands eagerly gather around the tub, bubbles dancing all around, with excitement they prepare for a simple yet essential task: washing handkerchiefs.

With giggles and squeals, they grasp their tiny clothes, dipping them into the frothy water like explorers embarking on a sudsy adventure.

With careful guidance from their teachers, they scrub and rub, learning the rhythm of cleanliness and the joy of accomplishment with each gentle stroke.

Amidst the splashes and laughter, they discover the importance of hygiene, transforming a mundane chore into a playful lesson that will stay with them for a lifetime.

"Who says you need fancy tools to grasp complex concepts?

From humble beginnings on the soil to the heights of technology, the tiny tots of Grade 1 & 2 redefined innovation! With nothing but mud and imagination, they crafted components of computers, proving that brilliance knew no bounds.

In no time, these students turned dirt into digital dreams! They broke traditional barriers by understanding computer parts through the simple act of drawing in the mud! Using nature's canvas, they not only sketched diagrams, but absorbed knowledge about CPU, Keyboard, Monitor, Mouse and more. Let's celebrate their innovative approach to learning!



FIELD TRIP

CHOWMAHALLA PALACE



The field trip to Chowmahalla Palace was a highly enriching experience. The students explored the historical significance and architectural splendour of the palace, engaging in interactive workshops, cultural showcases, and guided discussions. Through this immersive experience, students gained a deeper understanding of Hyderabad's rich heritage, fostering cultural sensitivity, appreciation for traditional craftsmanship, and a sense of responsibility towards heritage conservation.

The trip not only provided valuable insights into history and culture but also encouraged creativity, critical thinking, and global perspective among the students, making it a memorable and impactful educational endeavor. Overall, the field trip to Chowmahalla Palace served as a catalyst for holistic learning, shaping well-rounded individuals with a deeper appreciation for their cultural identity and the world around them.

“Travel, in the younger sort, is a part of Education; in the elder, a part of Experience”.

Francis Bacon

OUR CELEBRATIONS

UGADI

Spice up your life with a dash of flavor!

Embrace the sweetness of tradition, the zest of a new beginning, and the spice of celebration - because it's Ugadi time! Our young minds painted the canvas of the New Year with vibrant colours of joy, prosperity, and togetherness. Happy Ugadi from Birla Open Minds International School!



EID MUBARAK

It's a festival where excitement meets happiness, and celebrations paint the sky with joy.

The Eid assembly by the students of K2 to Grade 2 was a delightful blend of song, dance, and skit. The traditional colourful performances that showcased cultural richness and unity, left hearts brimming with joy and spirits lifted up.



Career Guidance

Woxsen University Collaboration



We are partnering with Woxsen University for the Woxsen Athena Program! As part of this exceptional collaboration, students will have exclusive access to a variety of focused courses and tools intended to foster their academic, personal, and professional development which would be on school and Woxsen campus. The Woxsen Athena Program's goal is to equip young minds with the information, abilities, and perspective necessary to prosper in the swiftly evolving environment of education by offering them access to Woxsen University's unique seminars and facilities at their campus!

Accountancy and Finance Internship



Students of Grade 12 Sashrika Reddy and Karthikeya Vankineni recently completed a transformative internship in Accountancy and Finance, organized by whatIsMyGoal in collaboration with T-Hub, ICICI Bank.

Under the mentorship of seasoned professionals, Sashrika and Karthikeya seamlessly applied classroom learning to real-world scenarios, gaining invaluable hands-on experience. The internship served as a vital bridge between academic theory and practical expertise, equipping them with the confidence to excel in their chosen field.

Their journey underscores the significance of internships in shaping career trajectories and fostering professional growth, serving as an inspiration to fellow students.



Nebraska University at Our Campus

Students of Grade 12 attended a session led by representatives from Nebraska University, Lincoln, including Dr. Byrav Ramamurthy and Mr. Blayne Sharpe. Dr. Ramamurthy emphasized the diverse career opportunities in Computer Science, showcasing the field's evolution and interdisciplinary nature.

Mr. Sharpe discussed Nebraska University's varied majors and programs, including Optional Practical Training (OPT) opportunities.

The session provided valuable insights for students' academic and career planning, empowering them to make informed decisions for their future endeavors.



POCSO Session

The school recognizes the paramount importance of ensuring safety and well-being of all our students. In line with this commitment, a comprehensive staff training session was conducted to educate and empower the faculty and the support staff in implementing our Child Protection Policy effectively to create a safe, nurturing and inclusive learning environment for children.

The session was also aimed at equipping staff with the knowledge and skills necessary for identifying, reporting and responding to child safety concerns and fostering vigilance, compassion and accountability within the school community.

At Birla Open Minds International School, every child feels valued, supported and protected!



SPARK SPEAK

Session on Swachhata

Ms. Habiba Barbhuiya from Goonj, an NGO dedicated to fostering equitable relationships between urban and rural communities, recently conducted an impactful session echoing the message: "Cleanliness is Contagious! Spread the Swachhata Spirit! Don't just recycle... Goonj it!"

The session resonated with attendees, emphasizing the importance of fostering a culture of cleanliness and hygiene within communities. Ms. Barbhuiya urged participants to not only recycle but to actively contribute to the Swachhata Movement by embracing the ethos of Goonj.

The message sparked a call to action, urging individuals to embark on a journey of transformation.



Session on Respect for Nation

"Cherish Our Nation, Honor Our Unity".

Our young minds had the privilege of attending an enlightening session on "Respect for Nation" featuring incredible speakers, Ms. Sharmila N and Ms. Kavitha Jale. They emphasized on the vital role of patriotism and encouraged student participation in social activities for nation building.

It was heartwarming to witness our students' enthusiasm and eagerness to contribute towards a brighter future for our beloved nation.



Session on Carbon Footprint

Young learners of CBSE Grade 3 were in for a thought-provoking session into the concept of carbon footprint.

The session was initiated by the young environmentalists Tanvika Reddy Bobbala, Veronica Mukkasa and Teerdha Gudapudi of Grade 8, CIE.

Through the interactive and engaging session with lots of quizzes and hands-on activities, the students navigated through innovative strategies and actionable steps to mitigate environmental impact. The session ended with a pledge to be a part of the movement towards a greener and more sustainable future. Through this session our students have already taken their first step towards a positive change.



Session on Earth Day

Our students of Grade 4 attended an interactive session on Earth Day conducted by **P Advika** and **Leshiya M** of Grade 11, IBCP.

The students of Grade 4 learnt about Earth Day. They explored what Earth Day meant and watched an eye-opening video about the importance of keeping our planet clean and healthy. The impact of plastic pollution and how we can all make a difference were discussed in detail.

Let's act together: recycle, reduce single-use plastics, and spread awareness. Every small effort makes a big difference!



“Education is not the preparation for life; education is life itself”.

John Dewey

ARTSY CORNER



Aastha 7D



Vrishank 7D



Anika Kothapalli 6C



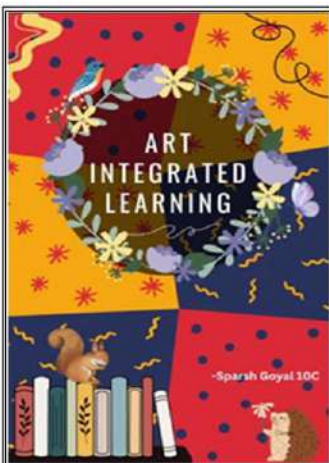
Shubham Sahu 12A



Vennelasree Narmala 9B



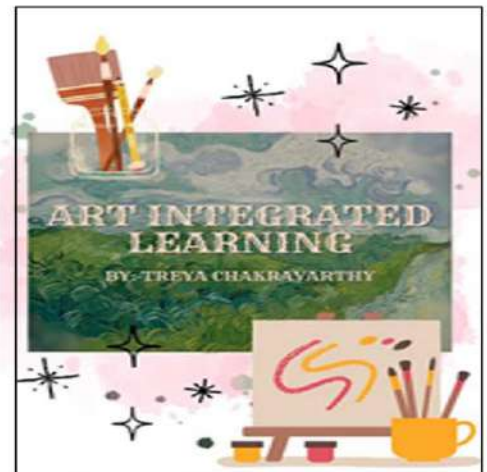
Shubham Sahu 12A



Sparsh Goyal 10C



Ananya Sai Aynumpudi 8E



Treyas Chakravarthy 9A