



Celebrating 20 Glorious Years

A Journey Down Memory Lane Over Two Decades

It was a windy September day in 2004 when I was invited to meet the Managing Director, Dr. Pratibha Mirashi, the Academic Advisor, Ms. Farzana Dohadwala and the then Project Promoter, Ms. Pinky Dalal in a tucked away lane in Tardeo.

At the Reception Desk, Ms. Havovi Khan escorted me into the Conference Room that is her cabin today. Over the next hour as ideas and plans were detailed, the expedition so excited me that I decided to embark on this journey on 1st November 2004.

I boarded the HSIS Train, to start a journey that has allowed me to travel and traverse many new routes over the last 20 years. The adventure criss-crossed unknown terrain, meandering its way uphill and downhill, across the occasional stumbling block but always discovering exciting scenic vistas enroute.

Ms. Nisha Vahi became my first travel companion on this section of the railroad track - The IB PYP Candidate School route which finally terminated at the IB PYP Authorised School Station in November 2007 - Our first successful destination!! A thrilling achievement! We continue to run this route annually.

Ms. Mansi Paralkar soon boarded the HSIS Train to oversee the safe travel in the IB Early Years bogies. She effectively and affectionately managed the on-boarding of the teeny-weeny passengers. This route also runs to date.

My confidante and right-hand, Ms. Deborah, was and still is, the go-to Principal Conductor. Without her, my journey would have had many derailments.

In 2008, a newfound destination - Station IGCSE was identified. Once the route was announced with 4 new stops, young travellers excitedly boarded the swanky compartments of 6, 7, 8 & 9 with Ms. Wilma Athaide, in the driver's seat. This route also continues to bustle with many energetic passengers every year.

The travel bug had bitten. Another destination - the IBDP Station was finalised. The pin was dropped for a start in 2011. Mr. Prashant Gohil, in the driver's seat, with 28 enthusiastic passengers onboard travelled through various twists and turns and ups and downs that would successfully lead them to Higher Destinations of Learning.

My travelogue through these two decades of an exciting, albeit challenging journey are replete with examples of stimulating experiences and encounters, vibrant interactions, new charters and many significant break throughs.

Friendships, fun times and fantastic opportunities have filled me with a feeling of special gratitude, warmth and nostalgia that were made possible by the total belief in my deliverables by both Drs. Jaydeep and Pratibha Mirashi, the Chairman and Managing Director respectively. Without their implicit faith in me and their unstinting support, this journey would never have left the station!

This voyage is an indelible part of who I am... and it fills me with immense pride that the challenge I took on 20 years ago has been responsible for the creation of an iconic brand- HILL SPRING INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

A Milestone To Remember

Twenty years is where HSIS has reached,
Its laurels are something that we are proud to preach,
from its inception right through its birth,
The growth has been phenomenal
That's what we are celebrating today with mirth.

The structural growth came up in phases,
The world around us sings out its praises,
Happy to be working in an atmosphere so protected,
Right from security to the classrooms....
The infrastructure is appreciated.

The thought process of a lady so revered,
Her vision and mission rings out... and is still being heard.
ENGAGING YOUNG LEARNERS is what our mission entails,
The essence of which within each of us prevails.

The twenty years that have passed us by,
Are filled with remembrances and have placed us on a high,
The bonding and the camaraderie that most of us experience,
Have stood the test of time with resilience.

So on this happy occasion, we ALL wish to say,
May Hill Spring grow further and rise up ALL the way.

Wilhelmina Athaide

CELEBRATING 20 GLORIOUS YEARS OF HSIS at Blue Sea Banquets

Hill Spring International School celebrated 20 years of its existence with a sumptuous Lunch, hosted by Dr. Jaydeep Mirashi, the Chairman of the Trust and Dr. Pratibha Mirashi, the Managing Director, at Blue Sea Banquets, Worli, on Friday 3rd November 2023.

Many ex-staff who had contributed significantly to the growth of the School were invited. A photobooth was set up to capture happy moments and create long lasting memories. Music also played an integral part during the celebration with many shaking a leg to the sounds of happiness.

All in all, it was a day to remember thanks to the generosity of our Chairman and our Managing Director.







HILL SPRING AT THE 2023 YALE TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

The 2023 Yale World Scholar's Cup Finale from November 2-9 at New Haven, Connecticut was truly a Tournament of Champions with 2700 scholars from countless countries participating after qualifying from the various WSC Global rounds. On discussion were thought-provoking topics like: "All the documents in the Library of Alexandria are traded with the Library of Congress across time and space. Which society do you think will be most impacted?", "That movies set in the future should be regularly updated with improved special effects", "That history lessons should omit the names of the people involved in specific historical events", "That multiple AI replicas of beloved historical figures should be released into the general population", "That Scholars should be allowed to use ChatGPT in Team Debate."

Doing justice to these topics the four junior and five senior teams of Hill Spring students made their presence felt in this assembly of super-achievers.





Team Vivaan Verma, Kabir Gupta and Aarushi Shah were placed 10th in the Team Championship rank, and 4th in the Scholar's Challenge.

Team Nysha Nahar, Arhaan Shah, Raha Krishna Mehta were placed 24th in the Team Championship rank, 21st in the Scholar's Challenge, and 19th in the Scholar's Bowl.

Team Arham Doshi, Araiya Zaveri, Anaya Bhartia were placed 28th in the Team Championship rank.

Team Aanshi Chokshi, Ananya Sampath and Rida Khan were placed 26th in the Senior Team Championship rank, 2nd in South Asia, 17th in the Scholar's Challenge, and 28th in the Team Debate.

Vivaan Verma was the World Literature & Media Scholar in the Scholar's Challenge where he also won five gold medals and was ranked 2nd while **Kabir Gupta** was ranked 20.

On a proud note, **Ananya Sampath** was distinguished with the honour of carrying the Indian flag in the closing ceremony.

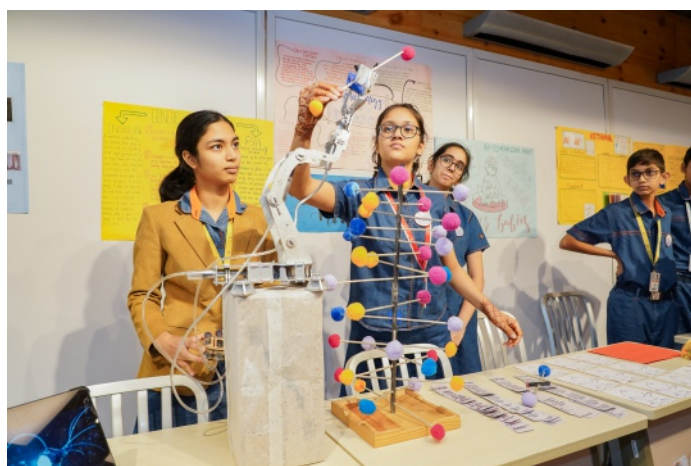


Celebrating 20 Years of Innovation: Hill Spring International School's Sci-Tech Exhibition 2023

On 21st December 2023, Hill Spring International School organised a splendid science and technology exhibition. It was a culmination of six months of dedication and creativity from students across Early Years, Primary Years Programme, IGCSE, and the Diploma Programme. This event, inaugurated by Dr. Pratibha Mirashi, not only showcased the brilliant minds of our students but also marked a significant milestone in the school's history – 20 years of excellence in education, particularly science and technology education.

It was an opportunity for the young eager students to showcase their knowledge and interest in the various fields of science to an attentive audience of parents, scientific experts and Hill Spring alumni. The exhibition spanned the entire E Wing of the school from the turf to the IBDP Art Studio with students of diverse ages displaying their innovations and thinking prowess. The theme of the Exhibition was based on the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal of 'Good Health and Well Being'. To ensure that students of all ages could actively participate, it was further divided into various sub themes.

Beginning with the Early Years, our youngest and brightest minds demonstrated how to take care of our physical and mental health through the sub- theme of 'Good and Healthy Habits'. They showcased the importance of good hygiene and taking care of our emotional well-being. The Primary Years students skilfully weaved their Units of Inquiry and the sub-themes of 'Food Science & Nutrition' and 'Sports, Exercise & Alternative Medicine' to bring us smart and sustainable food packaging, games and apps to help understand Ayurveda and therapeutic practices, as well as delightful sessions of Zumba and Mallakhamb to highlight the importance of physical activity in our daily lives. The IGCSE Grades 6,7, and 8 made the audience aware about various 'Diseases and Ailments'; using functional models and representations they explained the causes, effects and their treatments. Lastly, for IGCSE Grades 9 and 10 and IBDP Grade 11, the sub-theme was 'Medical Technology'. These students applied their scientific knowledge and their innovative skills to



work towards solving a particular problem in the fields of medicine and healthcare. Most of the projects highlighted a social cause and aimed to solve an ongoing and relevant issue faced by people around the world.

This exhibition was the collaboration of different ideas of different age groups and, above all, their ability to apply knowledge acquired in the classroom to real-life problems and issues. Demonstrating their scientific and technological prowess helped students reflect on their knowledge and develop a sense of responsibility regarding the impact of their actions on themselves, others, and the world.

To celebrate 20 years of scientific inquiry at HSIS, every student was part of a whole school event. Their inquisitive minds and their passion for science and technology brought together all students, teachers and support staff, and have been the driving force towards making this a successful showcase.

Yana Doshi and Parth Parikh
IBDP 11



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY – 2023 at Hill Spring International School

Each year we at Hill Spring International School commemorate the World Mental Health Day on the 10th of October. Since good mental health is vital to our overall health and well-being, it's our opportunity to unite behind this year's theme 'Mental health is a universal human right' to improve knowledge, raise awareness and drive actions that promote and protect everyone's mental health as a universal human right. It's also a chance to talk about mental health, how we need to look after it, and how important it is to get help if



we/others are struggling.

As an ongoing initiative of the Enrichment Center, Ms Reetu Seth (School Counsellor) & Team extended the campaign to enable whole school participation. The school staff was dressed in Green, a colour symbolically associated with the World Mental Health Day. The whole school was adorned with posters titled 'Mental Health Profile' which were created keeping the IB & Cambridge Learner Profile in mind, mapping the thoughts, actions and attitudes appropriate to maintaining emotional and mental health wellbeing.





An array of audio visual presentations were tailor made keeping the grade levels in mind backed by a class discussion and sharing for the IGCSE & IBDP Sections.

At the Early Years & Primary Years level it was a week long activity based campaign commencing from Tuesday, 10th October 2023

and culminating on Friday; 13th October 2023. Apart from showing the audio visual presentation, the mental health profile elements on the poster were discussed. The children got to indulge in creative theme based activities, created a Self Soothing Calming corner.

HSMO

A meeting of mathematical minds



The fourth edition of HSMO took place on 21st October 2023 with 60 participants from various schools in Mumbai.

After a lot of deliberation, the qualifying round of the Hill Spring Math Olympiad (HSMO) was conducted in person on the school premises. With the support of Grade 11 volunteers, the HSMO organizers from Grade 12 conducted the event smoothly and successfully.

The Olympiad commenced with the qualifying Multiple-Choice Question (MCQ) round, where each participant tackled a set of intricate problems individually. Pencils flew across answer sheets, and the atmosphere brimmed with intensity. After the dust settled, four outstanding teams earned their ticket to the finals.

The finals began with a round of "Jeopardy" where the teams faced four categories of mathematical topics, each with three levels of difficulty. This round became a riveting dance

of mathematical prowess and clever strategy wherein each team displayed their risk-taking ability by selecting questions of maximum level of difficulty.

Following this, the stage was set for the "Rapid Fire" round, during which teams had six minutes to answer as many questions as they could from a total of 10 questions. The agility of thought and speed of calculation exhibited in this round was thrilling to watch.

In the "Relay Round," participants faced a unique challenge with three questions. Once a team

member completed solving their question, only then the next team member could begin to solve their question. Teams had to strategise, ensuring each member played to their strengths, relying on their mathematical acumen while working seamlessly as a unit.

The Olympiad reached its zenith with the "Buzzer Round." Teams engaged in a high-stakes battle



of wits to outwit their opponents to secure their win. With negative scoring now in play, teams raced to hit the buzzer at electrifying speed and produce correct answers in the blink of an eye. The Buzzer Round was the crescendo of the event leaving everyone on the edge of their seats.

It was nail biting finish as a tiebreaker brought in a sudden death finale. The neck and neck scores were a testimony to the mathematical brilliance and collaborative effort of all four teams.

After a variety of rounds inspired to fuel Mathematical curiosity and intellect, the champions of the fourth edition of HSMO was

the Hill Spring International School team consisting of Soumya Nigam, Mahip Jain and Parth Vora from Grade 10. The team from Aditya Birla World Academy secured the runners-up position and the teams from The Cathedral and John Connon School secured the third and fourth positions.

The Olympiad was a celebration of mathematical ingenuity, strategic thinking, teamwork, and the thrill of competition and with genuine, positive feedback from the participants, we pave the way to making HSMO grander in the years to come.

- Hetav Mehta



RHEA JAIN WINS GOLDS IN KARATE At The Isso Karate Competition

Rhea Jain of Grade 11 has won 2 gold medals in the U-19 category at the ISSO Karate competition on Sunday, October 15, 2023, in both the Kata and Kumite category bringing pride to Hill Spring International School. The International Schools Sports Organization (ISSO) is dedicated to the development and promotion of sports within international curriculum schools across India and presently has 226 international schools from across India enrolled on its roster. Congratulations, Rhea!



BRONZE AWARDS FOR RHEA JAIN AND NAYSA SETH At the Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition

Grade 11 students Naysa Seth and Rhea Jain have won Bronze Awards in the Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition, the world's

oldest essay writing competition, with a total of 34, 924 entries this year. Previous awardees

include heads of governments and statesmen. This year's theme was - "A Youth Powered Commonwealth". Given that there were approximately 25,000-30,000 entries this year and that this award is given to only a few hundred (top 1-2% of all participants in the world) in this highly competitive essay competition, the results have brought us great pride.



KABIR WINS GOLD IN SQUASH at the ISSO Finals



Kabir Taraporewala of Grade 12 brought top laurels to Hill Spring International School when he won the gold medal in Squash at the prestigious ISSO Nationals '23 held on December 11, 2023.

MOKSH KOTHARI Shines at the World Dressage Challenge 2023

In a significant milestone following years of effort, commitment, and determination, Grade 12 student **Moksh Kothari bagged the Gold Medal and an all India top score of 67.576% at the FEI (Federation Equestrian International) - World Dressage Challenge 2023 - Senior 2 Category**, which was held on Sunday, November 19, 2023 at Bangalore's ASC Center. This is an international competition held by the FEI in various countries and the participants will be awarded their international rankings by their performance on this platform in January 2024.



DYPMUN INDIA

HSI continues its winning streak at the DYPMUN 2023.



Fourteen students from Grades 9 to 11 participated in DYPMUN 2023 on the weekend of 7th and 8th October. HSI delegates were present in all four committees of the conference: UNSC, DISEC, UNHRC and the FIFA Governing Council. Akshat Lal of Grade 11 served as a Guest Chair in UNHRC. We are very proud of our delegates who engaged in formal and informal debate with enthusiasm, while maintaining the decorum demanded in a MUN conference. Four delegates, Aryaveer Jain, Dharam Doshi, Nysha Zaveri and Aarav Parekh were selected to participate in the very competitive night crisis. **The delegation won a total of 6 awards including the Best Delegate of UNHRC (Aryaveer Jain) and the Best Delegate of UNSC (Aarav Parekh).** Congratulations to all!

JBMUN 23

HSI wins 'Best Delegation' for the Third Time!

JBMUN 2023 heralded another grand success for HSI! A 13 member delegation from Grades 9-11 won the Best Delegation award at the conference held from 13th -15th October. HSI swept the awards in the Arab League, a double delegation committee with **Parth Vora** and **Pramit Goel** winning the Best Delegate award, and **Mahip Jain** and **Rudra Hazari** claiming the Outstanding delegate award. **Aryaveer Jain** was judged as the Outstanding delegate of the Press Corps, and **Twisha Sud** received a verbal mention for her role in DISEC. Special congratulations to **Harshvardhan Agarwal** for picking up two coveted Best Delegate Awards, one in DISEC and the other for the Night Crisis. Three of our Grade 11 students **Shlok Rawat**, **Veddant Mehta** and **Adidev Mittal** were invited to be a part of the Executive Board of the



conference. Take a bow HSI MUN Club for another outstanding performance.

EXPRESSIONS

The Annual Concert 2023

IGCSE & IBDP Annual Concert

A medley of musicals; EXPRESSIONS 2023 was all about Embracing Differences through Bonding.

The three houses, (Aqua, Flora, Terra) put their best foot forward with stories that had us glassy eyed with laughter and sometimes tears. Each house put on a vibrant, multi-hued performance exploring some real-life individual challenges that showed us that the human spirit of bonding and embracing one another is always victorious over the irrational differences propagated by

some. The audience was blinded with the sheer brilliance of the students who wrote and performed for their houses along with the guidance of the House Teachers. The highlights being the inclusion of rap and spoken word poetry in the performances that put forth the

message with utmost vigour. The event was wrapped up with the school band performing

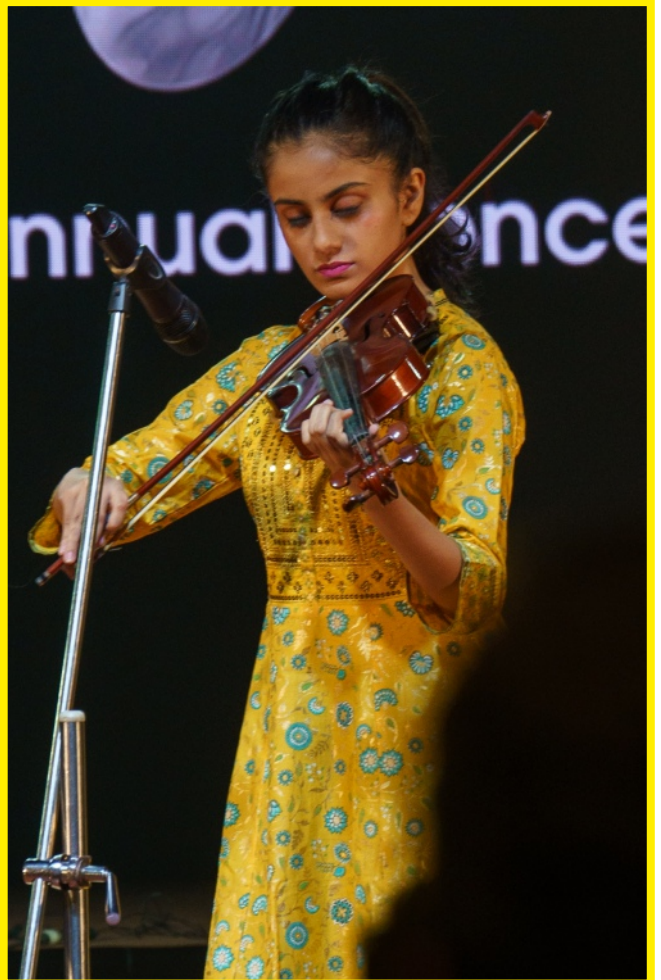


much loved song numbers and Indian Classical Ensemble of Musicians' performance orchestrated by Ms Nejal Doshi. A Gr.12 student Sariah Lobo had the audience

transfixed with her instrumental rendition of the National Anthem played on the violin.



"The Quest" Terra House





"In My Own Words" Aqua House



"For (He) Art's sake" Flora House





WELLNESS WORKSHOP

Session 2 – Stress Relief through Yoga

As part of the Hill Spring International Staff Wellness Program that was introduced in the beginning of this academic year 2023-24, the second session titled “Stress Relief with Yoga” was conducted on the 26th September 2023 for the Early Years & Primary Years Teachers, 18th October 2023 for the IBDP Teachers and 19th October 2023 for the IGCSE Teachers.

It is a highly evident and established fact that there is a MIND - BODY connection and our thoughts & emotions affect the body, therefore the emphasis on Physical, Mental and

Emotional Wellbeing. Each of us face many situations in daily life that challenge our coping styles and abilities. The trouble begins when we are unable to handle a situation and it may induce “STRESS”. Being in a prolonged or frequent state of stress releases certain chemicals in the body which may be detrimental for us. Our body and mind subconsciously absorb and stores stress which can manifest as chronic pains in certain body parts or affect the vital organs.



Teachers & Staff Workshop

As professionals, a major part of our day is spent at work, and the chances of induced stressors from outside and within may occur. To help release tension intermittently and restore our equilibrium some exercises and movements based on Yoga have been designed keeping our workspace and professional requirements in mind.

The resource person Ms. Arti Mehta, teacher at the Iyengar Yogashraya for three decades and herself having trained under Padma Vibhushan Yogacharya BKS Iyengar since her childhood



conducted the four sessions for our teachers and administration staff members. These sessions were a good opportunity to experience and learn a few simple movements which could be done at our work desk or chair and are time and situation appropriate. It was a chance to 'let go' of our physical and mental rigidity to be in a state of relaxed composure to make a fresh start.

The session was mostly appreciated by all participants.



CODE OF CONDUCT Assembly 2023

The members of the Student Council from Grade 12 conducted an assembly for the students of grades 6-10 on Wednesday 11th October 2023 to reinforce the school code of conduct. Anaya Sheth, Uddant Patodia and Mehek Aggarwal spoke to the students about the expected dress code, discipline, etiquettes to be followed in different areas such as school bus, classrooms, labs, cafeteria, etc. They reiterated the points mentioned in the school calendar and emphasized on the need to follow the code at all times."



CAREER GUIDANCE Grade 10



On the 25th of Oct, there was a talk arranged for the students of Grade 10, doing Biology. The speaker was an ex-student, Ms. Devaki Mirashi (the daughter of Drs. Jaydeep and Pratibha Mirashi). She spoke to the students about her journey as she pursued Biology after Grade 10 and then after Grade 12 (IBDP). In the initial part of her session, she highlighted the path she took, and shared her learnings regarding studying abroad, and in particular, about pursuing Biology in the UK and US. In particular,

she reassured the students that their choices of subjects would keep changing as they progressed ahead academically, and she advised them to be flexible right now and to keep their subject options as well as their career options open. The second part of her session involved the students asking questions concerning academic requirements,

relevance of summer courses, internships, etc. It was a highly interactive session, and Devaki responded positively in a very calm, reassuring manner. A couple of students even requested her to guide them over email if required at a later stage. After the session, most of the students said that they benefitted greatly from it, and they would reach out to her as some of them felt they were headed along the same path that Devaki followed.

MOULDING MINDS & CLAY

IBDP Students on Children's Day



On Thursday 9th November, a day before the Diwali Break, the IBDP staff organized a special Children's Day celebration for the students of

Grades 11 and 12. Dressed in vibrant traditional attire, students were divided into groups and had to create masterpieces out of clay based on the theme assigned to them. With themes such as Childhood Memories, Sports, Traditions and Culture, Ambition, Fantasy and Adventure, and Environment, the students got very creative and enjoyed getting their hands dirty as they brought the clay to life.

This celebration was accompanied by lively music and the students broke out into singing karaoke. Once they completed their clay models, the students engaged in group dances where they reminisced past assembly performances making the whole event a memorable one.

The clay activity brought out their childlike imagination and the joy of making a mess, and the music and dance celebrated their bonds of friendship as a cohort.

Early Years



The joy of childhood reverberated down the corridors and across school, as our little munchkins celebrated 'Children's Day' - with gusto and excitement! A juggling act brought much awe and wonder, followed by some yummy snacks! Our children posed at the photo booth and got themselves tattooed with stickers-making merry with their teachers and friends!

NAVRATRI CELEBRATION Grade 6

Navratri Celebration -The French department at HSI hosted an event for the students of the Lycée Français International de Mumbai (the French school) on the occasion of Navratri. With the guidance of Madame Dipa Sampat, agency was nurtured as students of Grade 6 took ownership of not only scripting, but also directing and performing a skit with great enthusiasm. The skit highlighted the victory of good over evil, a crucial message



marking the celebration of Dusshera. The traditional Gujarati Garba dance saw students and teachers from different cultural backgrounds 'imbibing a strong sense of national pride and international understanding'.

Early Years

Students of Early Years celebrated Navratri by playing dandiya and garba. They enthusiastically dressed up in festive clothes and learned some dance moves as they moved to the beats of traditional garba music.



VARANASI

Nurturing Language, Culture and the Soul



Our trip to Varanasi, a city nestled on the banks of the sacred River Ganga, proved to be an eye-opening and transformative experience for our group of 11th and 12th-grade IBDP students. This journey wasn't just a visit; it was a cultural immersion that significantly enriched our understanding of Indian culture and contributed to our Hindi language skills as part of the IB curriculum.

From the moment we arrived in Varanasi, the air seemed to be infused with spirituality, setting the stage for a profound exploration of this ancient city. The centuries-old mystique of Varanasi, as the oldest living city in the world, drew us in and left an indelible mark on our hearts.

Our first evening in Varanasi was marked by the ethereal Aarti ceremony at Dashashwamedh Ghat. The precise choreography of the priests, the mellifluous Sanskrit chants, and the mesmerizing dance of flames provided us with more than just a religious spectacle. It was a glimpse into the deep spiritual connection that Indians have with their rivers, leaving us with a profound appreciation of the spiritual dimensions that permeate everyday life in India.

The mornings in Varanasi took us to the sacred temples, where we immersed ourselves in the rich tapestry of Indian faith and tradition. The ancient Kashi Vishwanath Temple, the New Kashi Vishwanath Temple, Sankat Mochan Temple, and others showcased the diversity of religious expression in

India. These experiences not only expanded our cultural horizons but also deepened our understanding of the role of religion in shaping Indian society.

Our visit to a Saree Factory was a hands-on experience that allowed us to appreciate the intricate artistry and craftsmanship behind India's traditional attire. As we learned about the symbolism and storytelling embedded in each saree, we developed a deep respect for the artisans who preserve India's rich textile heritage. This encounter was a vivid illustration of the cultural significance of everyday

objects in India.

The excursion to Sarnath was a profound experience, particularly in the context of our IB curriculum. Standing where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon, we gained insights into the historical context of Buddhism and its profound influence on Indian thought. The Ashoka pillar and the relics in the Sarnath Archaeological Museum provided tangible connections to our studies in history and philosophy.

Perhaps one of the most significant takeaways from our Varanasi trip was the improvement in our Hindi language skills. Engaging with locals, bargaining at markets, and listening to explanations in Hindi during our visits broadened our vocabulary and increased our fluency. This linguistic immersion was invaluable, aligning perfectly with the language proficiency goals of the IB program.

In conclusion, our journey to Varanasi was an educational adventure that transcended the boundaries of a typical school trip. It deepened our understanding of Indian culture, spirituality, and history while significantly enhancing our Hindi language skills. Varanasi, with its timeless traditions and vibrant culture, provided us with insights and experiences that will undoubtedly contribute to our holistic growth as students of the International Baccalaureate program. This trip will forever remain etched in our memories as a transformative chapter in our educational journey.

VOTER INFORMATION SESSION IBDP

On 18th October, Hill Spring hosted its first ever Voter Information Session for Grade 11 and 12 students in the IBDP LRC to prepare them for the upcoming state and national elections in 2024. This initiative by the Student Council was aimed at informing soon-to-be eligible voters about the registration and voting process to increase voter turnouts among the younger generation.

Guided by this principle of political activism and democratic thinking, the Student Council conducted an educational session which encompassed the basic criteria for eligibility, the importance of elections and the process of filling in a ballot. In addition, students enthusiastically participated in a rapid-fire quiz about trivia on current Indian politics. Teachers and students alike benefitted from the holistic learning gained about the structure of Indian governance.



In alignment with HSI' mission statement, our students are committed to 'imbibing a strong sense of national pride, international understanding and responsible citizenship.' As Indian citizens, it is of utmost importance that we exercise our right to vote. With initiative like these, aimed to engage and empower the voices of the youth, we are making strides towards a brighter and better future for India.

-Anaya Sheth, President, Student Body Council

SCAVENGER HUNT Grade 8



Grade 8 students who are studying French as their second language participated in a scavenger hunt organized by the Alliance Française de Bombay.

The students(in small groups of 5-6 each), accompanied by their French teachers moved about in the Fort area, solving clues and eventually, resolving 'the mystery of the missing flower'.Through this experiential learning, Cambridge learner profiles – Confident, Reflective, Responsible were evidently visible as the students were able to follow the given map to reach a pit-stop and solve the given clue to move ahead with enthusiasm and a competitive spirit!

FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS Early Years Parent Sessions

Mrs. Kachhara engaged the learners of Junior Kg by conducting an interactive session wherein she created a ten-headed Ravan with the children. She also showed them an audio-visual depicting the story of Navratri and read a book on why Dussehra is celebrated. The learners learned the importance of both festivals and how they are celebrated differently in different parts of the country.



Dhvir Dedhia's mother narrated the story of Navratri to our learners and explained the meaning of the word Navratri (Nav means nine and ratri means night). She spoke on how the festival of Navratri is celebrated in many ways in India and various regions and that it symbolizes victory over evil. Post that they got their own set of dandiya sticks which they then decorated with stickers and used to dance to some peppy Garba songs. ed to the beats of traditional garba music.



To make our Nursery learners understand the significance of the Navratri and Dussehra festival, Aryan Mehta's mother and grandmother used recycled material to create a life-size Ravan with ten heads. They narrated the story to our learners and later just like how Lord Ram hit arrows at Ravan to show that good always wins over evil, our little learners were allowed to do the same with a toy bow and arrow. Post that they got their own set of dandiya sticks which they then decorated with stickers and used to dance to some peppy Garba songs. They ate Dhokla - a fluffy and soft savory specialty of the Gujaratis.



FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS Early Years Parent Sessions



Mrs. Jain engaged the learners of Junior Kg through a puppet show on the story of Ramayan and why Diwali is celebrated. She further made the learners make diyas and thalis to enjoy the festive fervor.



Mrs. and Mr. Gupta, Manit Gupta's parents conducted an Art session to celebrate the festival of Diwali. They began by showing the students a video on why and how we celebrate Diwali. Each child was given an opportunity to paint their own clay diyas. The learners concluded the session by decorating their homeroom to welcome goddess Laxmi.



Nitya Harian's mother brought Diwali festivities to Nursey by introducing our little learners to the background story behind the celebrations. She shared more information about the reasons why Goddess Laxmi and lord Ganesha are worshipped on the auspicious day of Diwali. Learners then got a chance to paint their own diyas and give festive shimmer. They also shared Kaju katlis, after all what are Indian festivals without Indian sweets.

PARENT INTERACTIONS Early Years



Play is an essential aspect of a child's development, encompassing a wide range of activities and experiences. It enhances their social and cognitive skills. Mrs. Marfatia's (Kabir's mother) involvement and enthusiasm made a significant difference in the children's learning experience. The joy and excitement on their faces during the play session were truly priceless. The lemon on the spoon race and throwing the balls kept them totally engaged.

Mrs. and Mr. Hirani, Aarvee's parents, engaged the learners in games involving fun and learning. The Feeding the Clown game tested the learner's skills with numbers. They had to roll the dice, count the dots, and pick up that many balls from the tray to feed the clowns. For the Ring, the Cones game the learners picked a chit, identified the middle sound (a and l), and put a ring around the corresponding CVC word.



Mrs. Jain, Hitarth's mother, conducted a science session connected to the ongoing UOI-Senses. The children had the opportunity to plant seeds of their choice. She explained that just like we get minerals and vitamins from fruits and vegetables, plants get them from fertilizers. She informed them that all the 'medicines' for the plants were organic and had no chemicals in them.



Mrs. Bakshi (Naina Bakshi's mother) shared a presentation about Mahatma Gandhi for Gandhi Jayanti. She spoke about how he was kind and generous and fought to give freedom to India. This was followed up by reading a story "Have you filled my bucket today?". Learners gave anecdotes stating how they could be kind to people and fill their buckets full of happiness.

PARENT SESSIONS Early Years



Mrs. Goenka, parent of Aveer Goenka from Nursery, conducted a Mother Tongue session on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. She shared a PowerPoint presentation about Mahatma Gandhi and the peaceful movement that he started that eventually helped India gain freedom from the British. Through the presentation, our young learners understood that the power of peace is greater than the power of force. Nursery learners were excited to paint Gandhiji's Three Monkeys using magic art painting technique.



Mrs. and Mr. Mittal, Alyssa's parents, conducted a session on exploration through the senses and how this contributes to our physical and mental well-being. Learners explored how their bodies and minds calmed down through the sense of touch by squishing a tub full of Orbeez. They played with stress balls and learned calming breathing techniques. Mandala colouring was a visual delight and enabled them to calm down and de-stress.



Mrs. Goenka (Aarin Goenka's mother) narrated the story of Dussehra to the learners of Junior Kg. She discussed what the ten heads of Ravana signify followed by a craft activity where the children stuck the ten heads of Ravana and made a stick puppet take home.

PARENT SESSIONS Early Years



A bright colourful session, bringing out the true colours of Rajasthan, Ruark Jain's parents beautiful explained the culture and art of Rajasthan. After reading a story about a camel, they made the learners wear colourful turbans and dance to the tunes of traditional dance form 'Ghoomar'. Block print being a native of Rajasthan art, learners got the opportunity to paint their white handkerchiefs with colourful blocks dipped in fabric paint. What fun!



To highlight the school theme of "Embracing Differences by Bonding", Mrs. Gosalia (Nimai Gosalia's mother), read the story Paper Dolls by Julia Donaldson to the Nursery learners. Each learner chose a partner to share crayons and colour and design their paper. The class collectively came together to build a chain of paper dolls, thereby understanding that despite the differences between us- we must learn to respect each other and interact and bond bonding with everyone in the class.

To ring in the Christmas festivities, Avyay Jajodia's mother and grandmother (nani) read a beautiful story on Christmas and Santa 'Caillou-Waits for Santa'. The children were excited to later see the Christmas creativity line. With cotton balls stuck on Santa masks and colourful Christmas tree with red straws and golden stars, the nursery learners were enthused and overjoyed.



PARENT SESSIONS

Theme Of The Year -EY



Mrs. and Mr. Pansari conducted a story session connecting it to the theme of the year 'Embracing differences through bonding'. The learners thoroughly enjoyed listening to the story 'The Bumble Bear' and enjoyed colouring the bear and bee.



Mrs. and Mr. Kedia – Vasvi Kedia's parents conducted an informative session connected to the theme of the year- 'Embracing differences through bonding.' The learners understood the meaning of diversity and accepting differences.



Mrs. Devata, Zia's mother, emphasized the theme of 'Embracing Differences by bonding', through the popular story- Giraffes Can't Dance. The learners enjoyed watching a movie of the story and understood that each one of us is unique and has our own strengths. We need to embrace each other and accept our individuality. Each learner then got one piece of a jigsaw puzzle to colour with their favourite colour, so all pieces looked different. When put together the jigsaw revealed the class photo, bringing about an understanding that "all the different children with different colors come together to form a beautiful nursery". The learners each got a fridge magnet from the class to take home as a memento.

PARENT INTERACTIONS

Fun with Science-Early Years

Mrs. and Mr. Harlalka engaged the learners of Junior Kg by conducting a hands-on experiment based on the scientific principle 'light travels in a straight line'. The learners were encouraged to actively participate, ask questions, and engage with the material to make this learning experience enriching for each one of them.



Mr. and Mrs. Lodha engaged the learners of Junior Kg in a fun science session based on the function of the lungs. The learners enjoyed playing with the model and understood its function and importance.

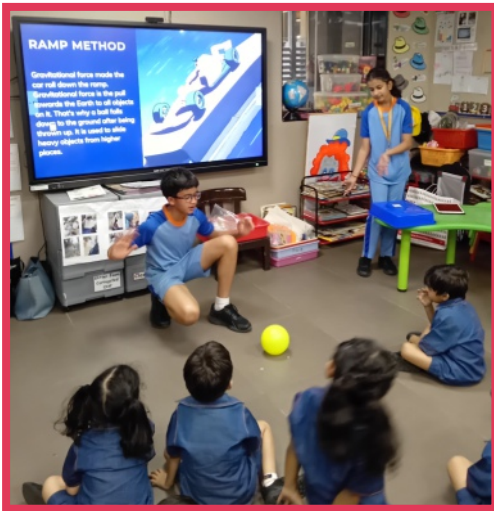


Mrs. and Mr. Vora (Anaya Vora's parents) introduced the learners to the term scientific principles through visuals (how a swing works, why ice melts when kept out, how a see-saw works, why some things float and some sink....) followed by a discussion. They engaged the learners of Junior Kg by conducting a hands-on experiment based on the scientific principle 'light travels in a straight line'. The learners were encouraged to actively participate, ask questions, and engage with the material to make this learning experience enriching for each one of them.

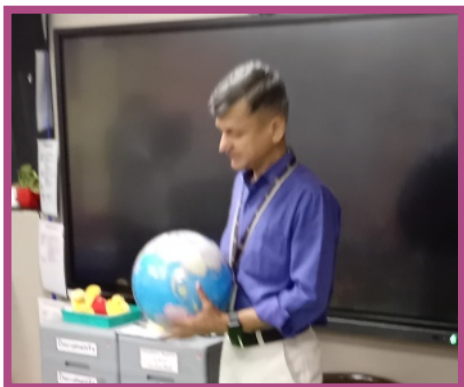


Mr. Gupta, Neetira's father conducted a science session on sound and light. He conducted experiments on the refraction of light and how sound waves travel in water. These age-appropriate experiments got the learners curious and excited and left them amazed.

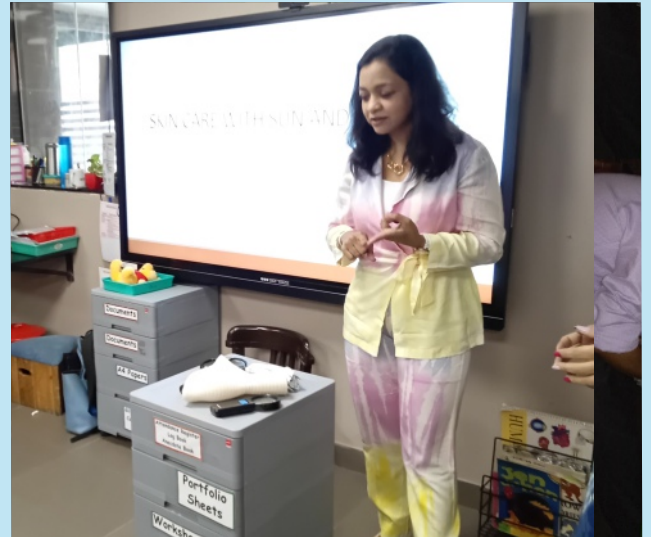
FUN WITH SCIENCE Early Years



Students of Grade 5 engaged the learners of Junior Kg in a fun and engaging science session connected to the ongoing unit of inquiry 'Shadows'. They explained the use of scientific principles that govern our daily life in simple terms. They were intrigued to see the walking water experiment which got them thinking as to how water can pass from one glass to another without lifting it up.



Mr. Jatin Rathod, an astronomer by profession conducted an interactive session with the learners of Junior Kg. He explained them the scientific principle on the occurrence of day and night. He further engaged them by stating the facts of the solar system.



Dr. Vibha Murarka, a dermatologist conducted an interactive session with the learners of Junior Kg. In connection with the science fair, she familiarized the learners with the advantages and disadvantages of sunlight and artificial light. She further explained to them things that can be used to protect themselves from sunlight.



Students of Junior Kg visited the Physics laboratory for a fun and engaging science session connected to the ongoing unit of inquiry 'Shadows'. The hands-on experience deepened their understanding of the relationship between the source of light and the shadow. The coloured shadow made learning a rich and memorable experience for the learners.

PARENT SESSIONS Early Years



Mrs. and Mr. Lodha, Tarushi Lodha's parents brought festive fervor to the homeroom through their session to celebrate Diwali. After reading a story about Diwali, the learners learned about the importance of being respectful of the cultures of others thereby embracing differences through bonding. They were thrilled to make a classroom rangoli with marigolds and paint their diyas to light their homes.



Reinforcing the school theme, Hiaan Jain's mother read a beautiful story book 'Everyone is welcome' to instill the values of open-mindedness and embracing difference between all. To demonstrate the strength of being together, she showed how a single stick can break but a bundle stays strong and cannot be broken, the learners even got chance to try breaking the bundle. They enjoyed later sticking their pictures on a worksheet to show Nursery is one big family. They also made a flower with colourful handprints signifying the beauty of being together.



Mr. and Mrs. Hajee Zainuddin Hajee's parents read the story 'How Rainbow Saved the Crayons' to introduce the learners to the theme of the year 'Embracing Differences by Bonding'. After reading the story a fun artwork was conducted by the parents.



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