



### NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

#### **Greetings from Hill Spring International School!**

HSIS was back to school in July 2024 with animated voices of greetings and meetings. Numerous stories were exchanged of exciting travels and holiday adventures.

Homeroom soft boards and corridors on the different floors were decorated artistically by the teachers to welcome their new learners to a year of exciting learning modules.

It was a unique experience to watch the Grades 1, 6, 11 (A Levels and DP Sections) enter their new classes on different floors and wings of the School. One noticed how they suddenly seemed to feel older, wiser, smarter and very important. Physical learning spaces and many new faces of classmates and teachers had changed.

A new Academic Year had begun. Many events, activities and celebrations planned for the months of August & September 2024 rolled out onto our campus.

The theme for 2024-2025 "Using Technology Responsibly" is innovatively woven into the various curricular and co-curricular programmes.

The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (Grade 12) results were received on 5 August 2024 with 44 students being awarded the prestigious IB Diploma. The IGCSE (Grade 10) results were declared on 13 August 2024 with all the students passing with flying colours.

There are many field trips and other activities conducted daily in the classrooms evidence of which has been printed out for all to read. I invite you to enjoy the glimpses of the activities as you flip through the pages of this first edition of "Spring Times."

My warmest wishes to each family,.
Wilhelmina Athaide







#### Awards & Accolades





### CAFETORIUM INAGURATION IBDP

On 5th September HSI inaugurated the much awaited auditorium. Surrrounded by HSI family and special guests Mr. Neil Nitin Mukesh and Mr. Chandrashekhar Chore, it was a sight to behold.







#### **INVESTITURE CEREMONY**

2024-2025

The Investiture Ceremony for the academic year 2024 - 2025 took place on 2nd of August 2024. The Chief Investing Officer for this occasion was our Principal, Mrs. Athaide. Sixteen students were invested and five representatives for MUN and CAS took their place in the Student Council.

"With great power comes great responsibility." The incoming Student Council members were called upon to accept their new roles as they navigate through a digital world, where acting responsibly becomes pivotal when ethical, social, and environmental considerations are at

stake. Having demonstrated exceptional qualities of leadership, dedication, and integrity, they were encouraged to lead with vision and purpose, reaching out to the student community at large.

Students from each class who were recognised for their sincerity and dedication to their work, their passion to learn and to grow beyond the classroom and their compassion and willingness to reach out to those around them were awarded Gold Certificates for the academic year 2023-2024.

#### Awards & Accolades



### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IBDP

Grade 12 student Aarna Chugh has made an innovative contribution to the detection of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) using speech recognition where she built a prototype which inputs a voice recording of a person and detects ASD using Machine Learning. This allows for accessible early diagnostics and treatment of childrenespecially valuable to low-income families. The research paper was

accepted at 4 conferences and won the CREST Gold Award this year



Grade 11 student Dania Khan is winning accolades on numerous debating platforms. She served as the only adjudicator under the age of 18 at the Qaynaat PD Debate Tournament, organised by Hindu College, Delhi University from September 27th to 29th including judging the novice finals. She secured the 15th Best Speaker award among 150 speakers globally in the Transpacific World Schools

Debating Championship where her team were also quarterfinalists. She is also Debate Ambassador and Mentor for the Indian Debating League- an organisation that sends teams for international competitions such as the World Schools Tournament at Harvard and Princeton. She has also won a Commendation at the John Locke Global Essay Competition.



#### THIA SHROFF WINS GOLD

**Team Epee Girls Fencing Competition** 

Grade 6, Fencer Thia Shroff won Gold medal at State level in the Team Epee girls Fencing competition.

We believe that Thia's achievement is not just a personal milestone, but also a reflection of the high standards and values that Hill Spring instills in its students.

#### **INAARA MEHTA LUTHRIA**

**Gold Medallist** 

# ARC riders Inaara, Taarini clinch gold in dressage

Mumbai: Amateur Riders' Club (ARC) rid-



er Inaara Mehta Luthria bagged a gold medal in the Dressage Children I category at the Equestrian Federation of India-organised Concours De Dressage National (CDN) in Bengaluru

recently. Inaara finished her round with an average score of 67.175% while riding Dasha Deluxe.

Another talented ARC rider Taarini Lodha clinched gold in the Dressage Children II category with 68.5% points astride Chase. TNN

#### Awards & Accolades





**Robotex India National Championship** 

Veer Deshmukh from Grade 6, recently competed in the prestigious Robotex India National Championship 2024 held in Pune on August 10-11.

In a competitive Maze Solver category, Veer stood out among 17 talented participants from across the nation. His exceptional skills and innovative approach earned him an impressive 3rd place. Many congratulations to Veer, for his hard work and remarkable achievement!



### HSIS SPARKLES AT OISMUN 2024

Parth Vora and Aryaveer Jain clinched the Best Delegate Awards while Sanjana Singh and Pramit Goel won the Honorable and Verbal Mention Awards respectively in their individual committees at the Oberoi International School Model United Nations (OISMUN 2024) from 19th to 20th October debating and deliberating on pressing global issues.



Hill Spring Wins "Best large Delegation" Award again at HMUN India 2024

15 students from the IGCSE and IBDP took part in the Harvard Model United Nations Conference India 2024 (HMUN India 2024) from 15th to 18th August. This four-day simulation of international relations had more than 850 delegates representing 64 schools from across India. The delegates assumed the role of UN representatives in committees like the UNSC, DISEC, SOCHUM, WHO, World Conference for Women, Press Corps, and in specialized historical ones like Mexico 1994 and the Court of Akbar. While debating on issues of global relevance, the delegates experienced the challenges of diplomacy first hand, and once again put up a stellar performance with 9 students bagging prestigious individual awards. Most notably, Hill Spring was awarded the Best Large Delegation Award from amongst the 64 schools, thus clinching a Delegation Award for the FIFTH consecutive year! Shllok Rawat from HSI was also selected as an Assistant Director on the WHO to work alongside counterparts from the Harvard Secretariat. Well done delegates and well done HSI MUN Club!



# EXPRESSIONS The Annual Concert 2024

"Using Technology Responsibly" - Expressions 2024

Hill Spring International School highlighted an urgent and pressing social issue "Using Technology Responsibly" at their Inter-House Dramatics Competition "Expressions 2024". Judged by celebrated media personalities, Kunal Vijayakar and Kunal Roy Kapoor, the competition tapped into the abundant talent, creativity and energy of its students – ignited even further by the competitive House Spirit and the zeal of their House teachers. Weeks of script-writing, storyboarding, creative differences and collaborative accomplishments culminated in stories which examined the double-edged sword that technology wields over the world. Plays like "On the Edge", "HeartWired", "Unplugged" tackled matters like social media pressures, impact of artificial intelligence and technology in shaping family dynamics, and dystopian science fiction scenarios - concluding with messages of balance, moderation and ethics in the way we should engage with technology. A thought-provoking skit and an extraordinary musical performance brought the evening to a befitting end. The Judges praised the creativity and talents of the students and appreciated their sensitization and empathy towards complex societal issues.











#### SPRING TIMES Newsletter

#### **Assemblies**





### INDEPENDENCE DAY ASSEMBLY Grade 11

On August 14, 2024, Grade 11 students celebrated India's 78th year of Independence from British rule with a play themed "The Celebrations of India's Independence Over the Decades." The performance emphasized the importance of actively commemorating national holidays as a tribute to the sacrifices and struggles of our brave freedom fighters.

Within just three weeks of the school reopening, and under the able guidance of Theatre Faculty Ms. Sayali Indulkar, the students delivered an entertaining yet informative show. The performance featured three live musical acts, realistic sound effects, and character-specific costumes, showcasing the ensemble's thorough preparation.

The 22-minute one-act play was performed twice: first for students in grades 6 to 8, and then for students in grades 9 to 12, in the HSIS Art Studio. Following the initial performance, Mrs. Bushra Khan engaged the young audience in a thought-provoking interactive session. The second performance concluded with commendations from Principal Mrs. Wilhemina Athaide and IBDP Coordinator Mr. Prashant Gohil.

#### STUDY IN FRANCE

Grades 9, 10 & 11

An assembly was organized by the French Department for the students of grades 9, 10, and 11 on the theme 'Study in France', conducted by Ms. Vanisha Hemrajani, the Campus France Manager for Mumbai. She was accompanied by Dr. Philippe Maurin, Academic and Scientific Attaché at the French consulate.

Through an interactive presentation, followed by a Q&A session, students learned about the various opportunities to pursue higher studies in France. Students were also encouraged to attend the Choose France University Fair on Saturday, 19th October 2024, at St. Regis, Mumbai, where they could meet university representatives.

This assembly provided a valuable opportunity for all senior students at Hill Spring to explore France as a study option.



### TEACHERS' DAY The IB & A Levels way

Teacher's Day 2024 culminated a week of activities for teachers like Stepping up on the Career Carousel, Two Truths and a Lie, and Dressing up as Iconic Duos and Trios. The IB and A-Level students, in addition, put up heart-felt stellar performances comprising of songs, dances and a quiz as a token of appreciation towards our teachers for everything that our teachers do - all year round. Emotions were high as Grade 12 gave it their all for their very last Teacher's Day. All in all, it was undoubtedly an unforgettable occasion, sure to be a core memory for teachers and students alike.

#### SPRING TIMES Newsletter

#### Field Trips



#### **CHOWPATTY BEACH**

**Junior KG** 

The Jnr.Kg. learners had a magical adventure at Chowpatty Beach! They discovered the wonders of sand, water, trees, and playful birds while building sandcastles. With Ganapati festival approaching, they learned the importance of caring for our beautiful beach





#### MANI BHAVAN

Grade 5

To commemorate the birth anniversary of the 'father of the nation', students of Grade 5 were taken for a field trip to Mani Bhavan. The idea of the trip was to educate students about our independence struggle and the significant role played by Mahatma Gandhi in freeing the country from the clutches of the British.

Passing through the 3 levels of the Bhavan, the students examined the photographs and exhibit on display, reading the details and asking questions to understand our perilous freedom struggle. This led to empathy towards our freedom fighters and appreciation for the freedom we enjoy today.

In addition, students also made connections with the current unit of inquiry thinking about the scientific principles at work while spinning the



charkha, broad base of the pedestal, black and white photographs, etc.

#### **CONSTRUCTION SITE**

Junior Kg

The Jnr.kg. learners were taken for a field trip to a construction site to understand how buildings are constructed and what are the materials required to build a house. They also viewed how sustainable houses are built to look after the environment .They gained a better understanding about the safety measures and the different people, machines, vehicles, materials and processes needed to construct a house/ building.





#### NEHRU SCIENCE CENTRE Senior KG

As part of the tuning-in activity the unit on Senses, the Snr. Kg learners were taken on a field trip to Nehru Science Centre. They had the opportunity to view and explore models of the different sense organs and understand the function of the sense organs.





#### Camps

#### ¡Hola España! Grade 11



As part of the IBDP Spanish Ab Initio course, 16 students of Grade XI travelled to Barcelona, Spain from June 8-15, 2024, accompanied by their teachers, Ms. Anuya Naik and Ms. Shruti Shah. The purpose of this trip was complete immersion in Spanish language and culture.

AIL, an institute based in Barcelona, was the centre for the students' language lessons. Their frequent interactions in Spanish with natives, both in and out of class, have been a tremendous boost to the students' confidence. In the cosmopolitan city of Barcelona, the learnings of Spanish class were further reinforced during visits to cultural and historical sites such as Barrio Gótico, Barrio Raval, Las Ramblas, La Boqueria, and the Camp Nou Stadium of FC Barcelona.

A major highlight was the day trip to the monastery of Montserrat, home of the Black Madonna and a revered place of worship, and the scenic coastal town of Sitges. Both locations, about an hour away from the hustle and bustle of Barcelona, had some of the most captivating vistas and made for a pleasurable day.

Food is a window to any culture and helps one learn more about the people of a region. Spanish gastronomy is varied and colourful, made of fresh ingredients and produce, and the students and teachers had a

splendid time trying various local delicacies like tortilla española, jamón serrano, jamón ibérico, churros con chocolate, local ice creams, and much more.

Spain's genial and accommodating people, its splendid natural beauty and rich cultural heritage combined with our students' enthusiasm and gusto enhanced all the remarkable learning opportunities and made this school trip truly unique and unforgettable.

#### UDAIPUR Grade 8, 9 & 10



On Sep 8th, 2024, the students of Grade 8, 9 and 10 visited Udaipur on a Four-day educational tour. They conducted themselves exceptionally well by humbly blending into all Rajasthani traditions, hence learning an important lesson of respecting and proudly integrating into the diverse Indian culture.

A memorable visit to Chittorgarh, a UNESCO world heritage.











### "NAAD BRAHMA" Staff Wellness Programme

Closing session for the academic year 2023-24 under the Staff Wellness Programme.

The Hill Spring Staff Wellness program, envisioned and initiated by our Managing Director; Dr. Pratibha Mirashi in July 2023 concluded the year with a session titled "Naad Brahma".

Naad Brahma or Cosmic Sound is the sound of the Universe that pervades throughout all creation. The therapeutic potential of music extends beyond mere listening. It possesses the unique ability to touch our emotions, soothe our souls, and even heal our minds. Active engagement, such as playing an instrument or singing, amplifies its benefits. The fundamental theory which forms the basis of Indian classical music is grounded in the theory of Nada Brahman as wherever there is vibration or movement, there sound is inevitable.

On 7th June 2024 Ms. Nejal Doshi (head of the HSI music department) and her team created magic by getting the staff members to dive into the world of melodies. They were guided to play a plethora of musical and percussion instruments synchronously following the musical patterns, exploring rhythms and experiencing how music becomes a powerful elixir for wellness. The highlight being each one felt invigorated, energised and simply happy while they let the inner child set free.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IGCE & IBDP Staff

The new academic year began to empower the teachers to use innovative and collaborative techniques, enabling the teaching-learning process to be more "palatable" for the students.

A teacher's workshop titled; Enhancing Executive Functions, Embracing Neurodiversity was conducted by the school counsellor, Ms Reetu Seth on 23rd July 2024 with the IGCSE & the IBDP teachers. It brought out the relevance of Executive Functions which and how these collective cognitive and self-regulatory processes help to achieve goals that involve us to PLAN, FOCUS, REMEMBER INSTRUCTIONS, and JUGGLE MULTIPLE TASKS successfully.

The session was interactive and used diverse modalities to apprise them of the challenges involved in a student's life, especially given the neurodiverse nature of any typical classroom. Various strategies were discussed to develop, promote and integrate the executive functions to create an efficient learning pedagogy.

The session was well received by the entire faculty and further strengthened the channel of communication and teamwork which is the bedrock of providing an inclusive environment at Hill Spring International School.

#### THRIVE & BALANCE Building Resilience in a Busy World

In today's day and age, concerns about mental health and well-being are gaining prevalence across all ages and professions.

'Mental health is a state of mental well-being that enables people to cope with the stresses of life, realize their abilities, learn well and work well, and contribute to their community.'

Taking the above into consideration and the daily challenges that the school staff members may face, this led to the inception of the HSI Staff Wellness Programme in 2023. This endeavour was initiated and inspired by our Managing Director, Dr Pratibha Mirashi and executed by the HSI Wellness Team.

In its inaugural year, the HSI Staff Wellness program and its initiatives were warmly received and appreciated by all staff members. This further strengthened the belief to create an ongoing, impactful program to cater to the sound mental health of the staff as they are the caretakers, facilitators, nurturers and the one-point contact for the students.

The first wellness session for this academic year titled 'THRIVE and BALANCE' - Building Resilience in a Busy World was conducted on 24th September 2024. It was designed and executed by Ms. Reetu Seth, our school Clinical Psychologist & Counsellor. She made the staff members aware of the causes of imbalances, types of stressors, their symptoms and physiological manifestations, possible coping strategies and how we can foster resilience and find our inner emotional anchor. The concluding thought was a step towards embracing the strategies with an open mind and a willingness to grow to maintain a state of MENTAL HEALTH EQUILIBRIUM.



### ECHOES OF RENAISSANCE Grade 8

Students of Grade 8, explored the multifarious aspects of the Renaissance period viz, Art and literature, Trade & sea routes, Scientific inventions and discoveries and their impact on the modern world etc. Their brilliant teamwork and collaborative presentations were a spectacular audio-visual treat indeed. The above poem-'Echoes of Renaissance' is a testimony to their outstanding creative skills.



### BRIDGING DIFFERENCES Youth Mantra Club

On September 2nd, 2024, the Youth Mantra Club organized a film screening for Grade 2 students to promote empathy and awareness through the impactful medium of film. The featured film, Ian, depicted a physically challenged boy facing judgment and isolation as he strives to make friends. Following the screening, students engaged in discussions around key themes of inclusivity, empathy, and human relationships, reflecting the central ideas of the program of inquiry "Who We Are." It was heartening to witness the students' thoughtful participation, as they shared personal experiences and demonstrated deep insights into the importance of bravery and inclusion in fostering meaningful relationships.

Soumya Nigam - Grade 11 - Youth Mantra Club



#### ICE-BREAKERS

Batch 2026

On 25th July 2024, IBDP freshers from the Batch of 2026 were eased into the Diploma Programme and into each other's company through a creative and enjoyable ice-breaking session. After an introductory orientation, the students gathered in the basketball court where they were divided into six groups with each group being assigned a state of India. Working collaboratively, they performed a two-minute tourism advertisement for that state. It was enjoyable to see them don their thinking caps to team up and create advertisements in their own unique style.



#### **CYBER BULLYING SESSION**

Ms. Nirali Bhatia

Ms. Nirali Bhatia conducted a session on cyberbullying for HSIS students. She introduced key aspects of the cyber world, including the concept of cyberbullying and situations where privacy could be compromised. Ms. Bhatia discussed topics such as phishing, smishing, hacking, and gaming scams, helping students recognize the warning signs to watch out for when using online platforms and how to protect themselves. The session was highly interactive, allowing students to actively participate, ask questions, and clarify their doubts. The content and examples were tailored to the students' age group, making it easier for them to understand the importance of digital self-protection.



### THE CELL ACTIVITY Grade 6

Students were tasked with creating 3D cell models using only ecofriendly materials like clay, cardboard, leaves, and recyclable items. Each group selected either a plant or animal cell and researched its organelles. They creatively represented components like the nucleus, cell membrane, and mitochondria using their chosen materials. After constructing the models, students presented them to the class, explaining the function of each part and the importance of sustainability in their material choices. The activity concluded with a Q&A session, where students shared insights on both cell biology and environmental impact.

### THE CUP ACTIVITY Grade 6



Students used numbered cups (1 to 30) and marbles to explore HCF and LCM. Each student picked two numbers, placing marbles in the corresponding cups based on multiples of those numbers. For example, for 4 and 6, they placed marbles in every 4th and 6th cup. The cup with marbles in both sets first indicated the LCM, while cups with marbles in common showed factors. The highest common marble placement was the HCF. Afterward, students shared their results, explaining the steps and their understanding of HCF and LCM through the activity.



#### HUMAN LIBRARY

Grade 5

With a vision to provide enduring learning experiences that extend beyond the boundaries of the classroom, Grade 5 organised a Human Library session for the students to delve deeper into the Unit of Inquiry on Human Body. Students posed their burning questions to experts from various fields; Ms. Sonica for dance, Ms. Nejal for music, Ms. Shantala for social-emotional learning to name a few. Our in-house faculty was joined by Ms. Payal Kothari, a gut health specialist and the author of the book titled 'The Gut.'

The session was designed to aid students build on the conceptual understanding of the issues and feelings they might have as they transition into adulthood and different ways in which they can cope with these emotions. We hope the rich interactions give students a perspective which would help them deal with their changing body and emotions with ease.

### UOI- SENSES Biology Lab



The Snr. Kg. Learners further delved into the unit of Senses through a visit to the biology lab. They interacted with the biology teacher Ms. Dhanashri to further understand the function of the 5 senses, how each of these senses are connected to each other and the use our senses to explore the environment.

### THE PEBBLE ART Grade 6

The Pebble art created by the Learners of 6 grade is a wonderful expression of creativity and resourcefulness. Using natural elements like stones to craft meaningful designs not only demonstrates artistic skill but also encourages a deeper connection to nature. The way students transform simple pebbles into intricate patterns or representations of animals, landscapes, and even abstract ideas highlights their ability to see beauty and potential in everyday objects. This form of art also fosters mindfulness and patience, as each piece is carefully selected and placed, reflecting the students' attention to detail and their unique perspectives. Such projects are a fantastic way to blend environmental consciousness with artistic expression.



### MASTERS OF VENICE Grade 8



Deciphering Shakespeare's 'Merchant of Venice' is indeed, a Herculean task. Not for Grade 8 Alpha- who decided to meet the challenging task head on! De-coding the archaic words, discussing character traits of Antonio, Bassanio, Portia and the inimitable Shylock was great fun as they were not merely caricatures but realistic characters, with shades of grey. The Bard of Avon would have been extremely proud of the students' work.

### THE ESSENTIAL AGREEMENT ART Grade 8



The Essential Agreement art activity undertaken by the Learners of grade 8 is a brilliant initiative that blends creativity with collaborative learning. Through this activity, students visually express the core values and principles that guide their classroom environment. By engaging in art, they can convey ideas such as respect, responsibility, and teamwork in a vibrant and meaningful way. Each student's unique contribution to the artwork symbolizes their commitment to upholding these agreements, fostering a sense of ownership and collective responsibility. This hands-on approach not only reinforces the students' understanding of essential agreements but also strengthens their ability to work together and appreciate diverse perspectives.

#### YOGA SESSION Mrs. Ritu Bang



Mrs. Ritu Bang conducted an engaging yoga session with the students of Grade 2 through the Story — 'The Hungry Caterpillar' followed by the entire group perform certain yoga asanas specially for children. The students understood the contribution of yoga to enhance Overall Wellness.

#### SPRING TIMES Newsletter

#### **Guest Speakers**



#### Mrs. VARDHAN Crafty Bugs

Mrs. Vardhan, along with a team of professionals from Crafty Bugs-conducted an interactive session on how we can be mindful to celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi. The students enjoyed and shared ways to celebrate in an eco-friendly manner. They did the immersion of chocolate Ganpati in hot milk. The students had a hands-on experience to make their own eco-friendly Ganpati.



### Ms. RUCHITA MEHTA Speech Pathologist

Ms Ruchita Mehta, a speech pathologist, enlightened our learners with her expertise by sharing with them how people with no or lesser sense of taste cope with their inability.

She also touched upon how we can be responsible for our senses and how people who lack a sense function with the help of other dominant senses.



### Mr. UTKARSH SINHA Data Collection Process

At the onset of the second Unit of Inquiry, students of Grade 5 were guided into the 1st line of inquiry – Process of Data Collection through an interactive session with Mr. Utkarsh Sinha, father of Inaya Sinha from grade 5.

Mr. Sinha and his session played a pivotal role in tuning the students into the unit. He got the students thinking about the various aspects of data collection and analysis such as qualitative and quantitative data, independent and dependent variables, observation, gathering and recording among others. Being an investment banker himself, Mr. Sinha connected with his own line of work explaining to them the importance of data collection for decision making.

We are always grateful to our parent community for their continued support in helping our young learners grasp complex concepts with ease.



### Ms. SUMAN & JUHI AGARWAL Nutritionist

Mrs. Suman Agarwal along with Ms. Juhi Agarwal visited the nursery homeroom for a session on nutrition connected to the third line of inquiry of UOI- Myself— Daily choices affect our well-being. They emphasized the importance of leading a balanced lifestyle by consuming healthy food, exercising and resting.

#### Guest Speakers

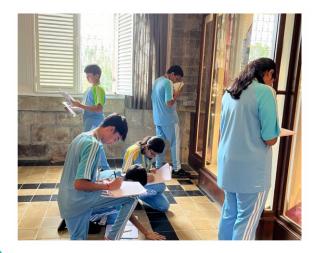




Mrs. Poddar, an architect conducted an insightful session with our Junior KG. learners on building materials (properties of materials) and sustainable construction. The learners were truly engaged and excited. She shared her knowledge and explained complex ideas in a way they could understand more about construction.

#### CSMV Sanghralaya Grade 7

On Friday, August 23rd, 2024, the Grade 7 students embarked on an enriching field trip to the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sanghralaya (museum) as it aligned with their ISS unit on Sources of Information. Accompanied by their language and ISS teachers, they explored the museum's artefacts, displays and exhibits, making observations and notes to reinforce their learning. This experiential learning experience helped enhance their research and time management skills besides strengthening the understanding of the subject matter. The learners demonstrated the Cambridge learner profiles: Confident, Reflective, Responsible and Engaged. Notably, the students successfully integrated the ISS unit across the multiple languages they learn at school (English, Hindi, Marathi, and French).





### BOMBAY FOUNDATION OF DEAF WOMEN - AN NGO

As part of the unit on senses, a session was organized by Ms. Spandana and Ms. Rajyalakshmi Meka Rao with volunteers from an NGO – BFDW (Bombay Foundation of Deaf Women), along with dancers from the Deaf Institute. The session aimed to raise awareness among the learners about individuals with special needs. Our young learners had the chance to watch a dance performance and witness the national anthem performed in sign language by the Deaf Institute guests. This was followed by a discussion on how the dancers, despite their hearing impairment, were able to perform in perfect sync, even without hearing the music. Ms. Ashwini from the NGO introduced Senior KG learners to various gestures and sign language used for communication by the deaf community.



### Dr. KAMRAN Pediatrician

The learners interacted with Dr. Kamran to understand that we change in our physicality and our abilities / skills as we grow. He also spoke to them about how certain healthy habits enable us to grow healthy like sleeping early, eating healthy food and playing a sport.

#### **Celebrations**









### **INDEPENDENCE DAY**Art Session

Mrs. and Mr. Bafna, conducted an engaging art session in the spirit of Independence Day. They discussed India's national symbols and narrated the inspiring story of India's independence from British rule, highlighting the bravery and determination of its people. The session concluded with the children singing the national anthem, creating palm paintings of flags, reinforcing the colors of the Indian flag.

Mrs. & Mr. Desai, conducted a session on play keeping in mind the spirit of Independence Day. They interacted with the children after showing the videos on Independence Day and the National Symbols. The learners then enhanced their creativity by engaging in play through are where they did paper tearing and sticking on outlines of National Symbols

Mr. and Mrs. Agarwal conducted an engaging session with our learners where they provided them with a deeper understanding of the significance of Independence Day. They concluded the session by playing a Bingo game which familiarized them with the important facts of our country. They made the learners paint a big Indian flag for the homeroom.

### JANMASHTAMI HSIS Celebrates

Our enthusiastic learners celebrated the colourful festival of Janmashtami to mark the birth of lord krishna, by breaking the matkis and joyfully dancing to the tunes of the festive songs. They were delighted to receive their chocolates as mark of the celebration.

#### NAVRATRI Festive Spirit





Learners of Early Years celebrated the festival of Navratri in the cafetorium. Dressed in festive attire the learners danced to the tunes of popular Navratri songs with their teachers.

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#### SPRING TMES Newsletter

#### **University Visits**







#### **UNIVERSITY VISITS**

**August-September 2024** 

Hill Spring International School continues to add value to its Diploma Programme by furnishing its students with avenues to pursue their future careers and educational choices through arranging for students to meet representatives from Universities in India, the United States, Europe, East Asia and Oceania.

The detailed list is below:

Russell Square International College

Toronto Metropolitan University

University of California Riverside

Queens Univ, Canada

Mc Master, Canada

Wake Forest University

**NUCB Japan** 

University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign

University of Iowa

**University of Oregon** 

**Rutgers University** 

University of Colorado Boulder

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Michigan State University

University of Miami and American University

Univ of College London

Imperial College London

Univ of Bristol, UK

**Tulane University** 

Case Western Reserve University

George Washington University

Babson College

Northeastern University

University of Manchester

**University of Warwick** 

University of Southern California

Singapore Management University

**University of Toronto** 

**University of Chicago** 

**Emory University** 

NYU NY

NYU AD

**Union College** 

Lafayette College

Marist College, USA

New York Film Academy, USA

Savannah College of Arts and Design, USA

IE University, Spain

Plaksha University, India

**Boston University** 

