Newsletter September 2020

This edition contains the events and happenings for the exciting month of September 2020



Student Council Election 2020-2021 School Pupil Leader

Avaneesh Kalyanasundaram

Niranjan Baskaran





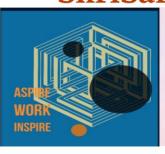


Cultural Secretary

Cathy Megan Doss



<u>ShriSaran</u>

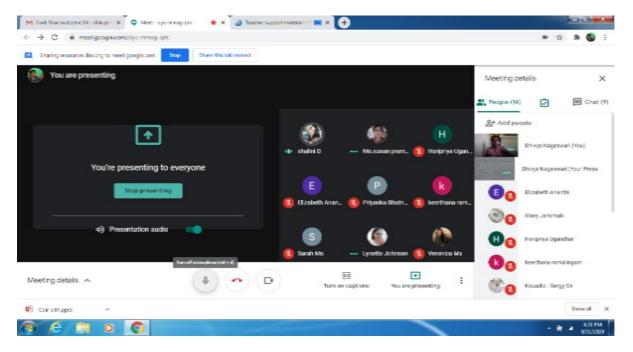




- **▶** PYP Collaboration Meeting 31st Aug 2020
- ➤ Miraculous Workers- A Study about how Ants store their food 1st Sep 2020
- **►** The Importance of Physical Activity 2nd sep 2020
- **>** World Coconut Day: September 2nd, 2020
- **▶** DP Collaboration Meeting 3rd Sep 2020
- ➤ Summative Assessment –3rd Sep 2020
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- ➤ PYP Collaboration meeting 14th Sep 2020
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- **>** MYP Collaboration Meeting − 15th Sep 2020
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- **▶** PYP Collaboration meeting 21st Sep 2020
- **► MYP Collaboration Meeting 21st Sep 2020**
- **▶ DP** Collaboration Meeting 22th Sep 2020
- **➤** Collaboration with the TOK Expert 23rd Sep 2020
- **▶** PP Assessment 25th Sep 2020
- $ightharpoonup MUN 26^{th} Sep 2020$

PYP Collaboration Meeting – 31st Aug 2020

Had a brief discussion with the PYP coordinator and teachers on the below. Reflection on the use of SOLO taxonomy and to design learning outcomes across a unit of inquiry (a learning progression). To understand how the concept of agency can be supported in a Primary Years Programme (PYP) context. Discussion on the PRC .TSM-Teachers Supporting Material, in the PRC.Reflection on the levels of thinking within the SOLO (structure of observed learning outcomes) taxonomy.



GIS IBDP Coordinator Ms.Sangeetha organized a Google meet meeting on Assessment in IBDP Mathematics. The resource person was Mr. Shiv Gaur, Mathematics facilitator and IB Examiner of Nazarbayev International School, kazakhstan. He holds vast experience in IBDP Mathematics. He gave his valuable suggestions in training the students to choose the exploration. An in-depth discussion on external assessment and internal assessment helped to get a clear insight into the curriculum. Mathematics facilitators of GISIB participated in the meeting.



The students of K3 grabbed their opportunity to identify the amount of hard work done by Ants to store its food for the winter season after learning the story, "The Ant and the Grasshopper". They placed the food for the ants in their house and they observed the hard work made by the ants to take the food to its home. They supported their learning experience through illustrations







<u>The Importance of Physical Activity – 2nd sep 2020</u>

The students sought the help of their parents as they supported them to do an activity involving exercise. Student drew a vertical line in the middle of the page in their notebook and labeled the columns as "Before" and "After." They described their feelings as to how they feel when they sit quietly in their rooms. Parents were requested to encourage them to pay attention to



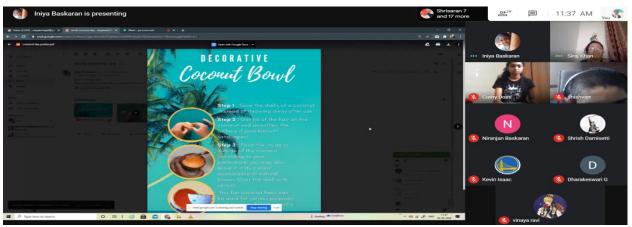
what kind of mood they were in, what their bodies were telling them, and how much energy they had at that point of time. They said things like calm, tired, bored, and comfortable. Parents noted those words or phrases in the "Before" column. The parents helped the kids in doing a variety of exercises, such as high-knee marching around the room, sit-ups, push ups, jogging in one place, or jumping jacks. They made them do the exercise for five minutes. The students expressed their feelings again after doing exercise. Parents noted those words in the "After" column. Students said things like alert, awake, happy, full of energy, excited.

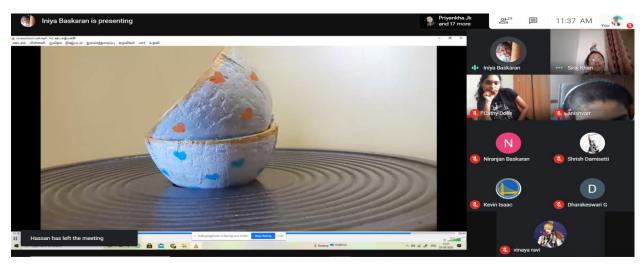
World Coconut Day: September 2nd, 2020

World coconut Day was celebrated on September 2nd, 2020. On this day, students from K1 till PYP 5 actively participated in activities that created awareness in knowing the various parts of the coconut plant, identifying the edible parts, its purpose and the ways the coconut plant can be used to attain the health benefits. Children understood the various art and craft activities that can be done with the various parts of the coconut plant they chose different task and did an experiential hands on activity to celebrate. They had done excellent research and presented with clear motive stating awareness about the Coconut plant. MYP 1 and MYP 2 students did research on coir pith under various categories like uses, different forms, and procedures to make a mattress including the importance of coconut scrub great for the skin and coconut sweet is easy to make and it is healthy. MYP 3 students made a tabla with coconut shell, hair mask, hair cream, and eco-friendly coconut cups while MYP 4 students, made lip balm, homemade coconut oil, a decorative bowl out of coconut shell, and homemade sanitizer. Lastly, MYP 5 students created a few coconut crafts, jewellery making with coconut shells and presented their survey on coconut production in India and along with a video having coconut hacks.









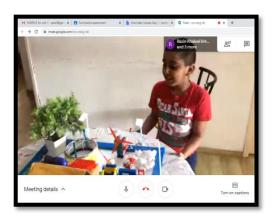
<u>DP Collaboration Meeting – 3rd Sep 2020</u>

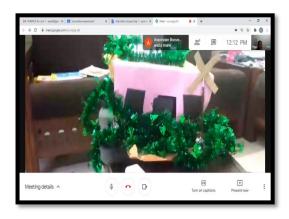
DP collaboration meeting was held to discuss the below .

- Assessment workshop for DP1 parents and students will be conducted on 7th
 Friday
- All the subject and core teachers will be presenting in the workshop'
- The workshop will mainly focus on internal and external assessment
- TOK titles were discussed in the meeting by the TOK coordinator

Summative Assessment -3rd Sep 2020

Students used their thinking skills and research skills to accomplish their unit 1 summative task. They used the time of offline activity to complete the summative assessment project. They were able to create an eco-friendly house, they used new vocabulary learned in unit 1 (rain water harvesting system, compost pit, wind mill, and solar panel) and understood the concepts of Eco friendly materials and the place of environment to build a house. Students enthusiastically presented their model during the summative assessment.





Reduce, Reuse and Recycle – 4th Sep 2020

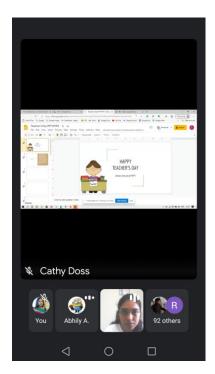
The students of PYP 3 researched on the 3 R's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. They explained the concept and came up with multiple ideas on how they can implement and save their resources for future use. They stressed on reducing the use of water and electricity and mentioned that the jute bags or the cloth bags should also be reusable. They highlighted that most papers and paper products can be recycled for different uses.





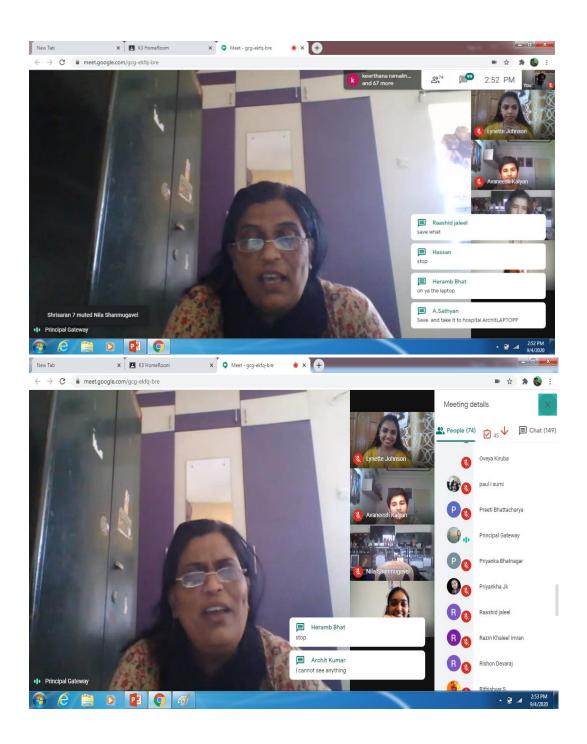
Teacher's Day Celebration: September 4th, 2020

The PYP1-5 students actively participated in the Teachers day Celebration and solely took responsibility for the task that they shared during the celebration. It was thought provoking and greatly collaboratively planned by the children within a stipulated short timeline which was really admirable. They expressed their happiness in celebrating by showcasing their appreciation for their teachers on this auspicious day. They expressed their love in various forms like Poem, a virtual song, a skit that explained the efforts of all the teachers who were role models to them. Our Principal was overwhelmed and appreciated the students earnestly on behalf of the teachers. Teacher's Day was celebrated on 4th September 2020. Students of DP 1 and 2 in collaboration with MYP 1 to 5 students organized a wonderful program for Teachers on Google meet. MYP 1 and 2 students wrote their own teacher's day messages for their beloved teachers. MYP 3 student made



painting and sketches of best teachers in the world. MYP 4 students wrote and gave sweet speech about each and every teacher who taught them and wrote a poem for teachers. MYP 5 students created a video for teacher's day by compiling all the students' works from PYP1 to MYP4.





Meeting on SA Activities – 5th Sep 2020

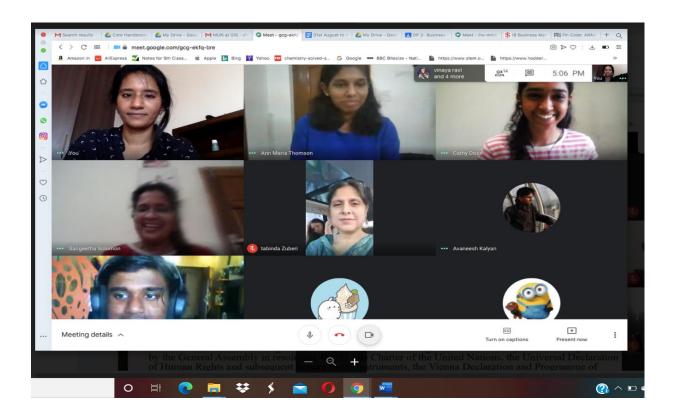
Discussion with the MYP Co-ordinator and the SA Coordinator regarding follow-up for the Service as Action Programme for 2020-21. An in-depth discussion about the procedural approach for implementation of the SA activities planned (3 stages- planning-proposal, documentation and reflection), community projects (pros and constraints of doing one during

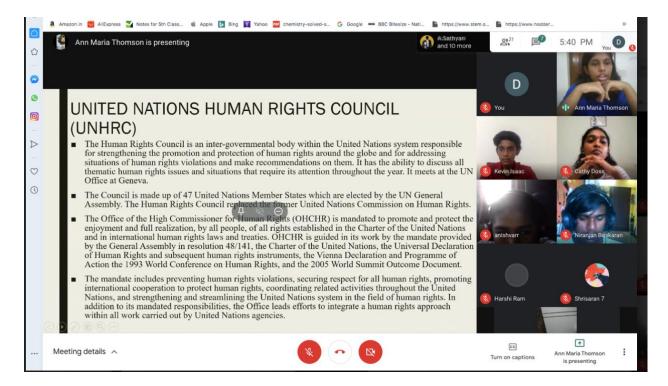
such lockdown scenario), requisites in terms of activity hours and learning outcomes, the role of the SA Coordinator (also, the documents and other resources that can provide clarity on the role of a SA Coordinator were shared) and the supervisors in effective implementation of an activity, and the documents that are to be kept for documentation and evaluation purposes.

MUN Training Session

The first GIS Intra-School one day Model United Nations for the students of MYP 3 to DP 2 will be conducted on 26th of September. The participants of Gateway International School were given training. The training session was conducted on the 5th of September from 5 pm to 7 pm.

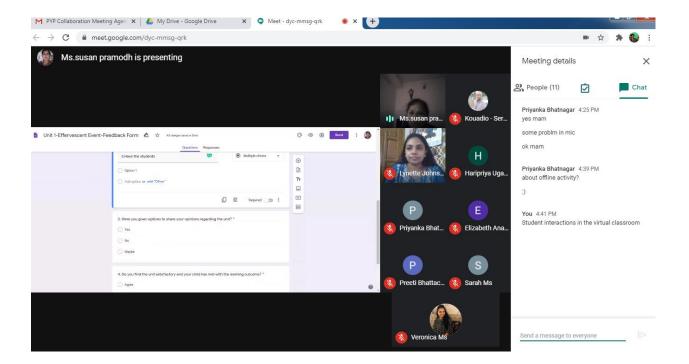
Ms. Ann Maria Thomson, Mr. Aathmaram and Mr. Vaideesh were the resource persons for this session. They took much effort in imparting every single aspect of the MUN and encouraged the students to fearlessly participate in the MUN conference. They also clarified and gave detailed explanation to the doubts raised by our students.





PYP Collaboration meeting – 7th Sep 2020

Had a meeting with the PYP teachers and the coordinator to discuss on implementing agency in Virtual Classroom. Discussions on the completion of Mangebac, the teachers doubt on few of the questions like, digital portfolio, access of grade book and uploading the files in the common platform on managebac was also done.



Helping Out at Home - K3 - 8th Sep 2020

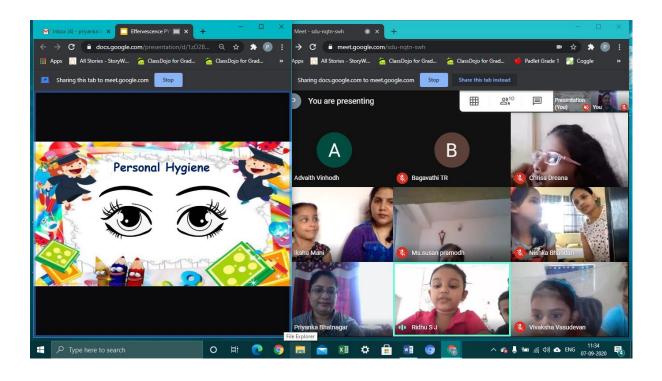
The students of K3 created a photo album of the household chores made by them with the aim to develop self-management skills as they reflected on the organizing game in the PE class by cleaning their toy shelf and stationaries at their home.

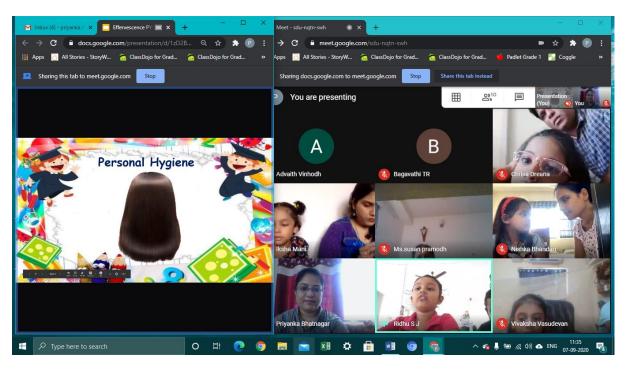


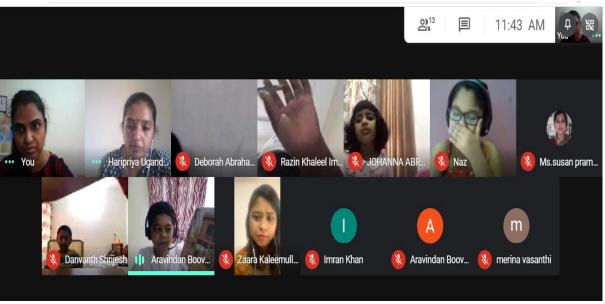


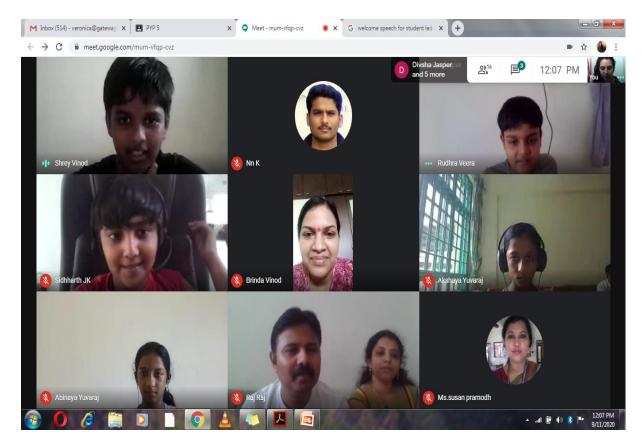
Effervescence Event PYP1-PYP 5

PYP 1 Effervescence was a delightful event where parents witnessed the learning of our little inquirers. The students enthusiastically showcased their learning of unit-1 (Who we are) by speaking on different topics. The students of PYP1 took turns and spoke about all the subject areas they have gone through, during this unit. Students took pleasure and a sense of pride by conducting a quiz for parents where they asked different questions and felt gratified by telling them if the given answer was correct or not.





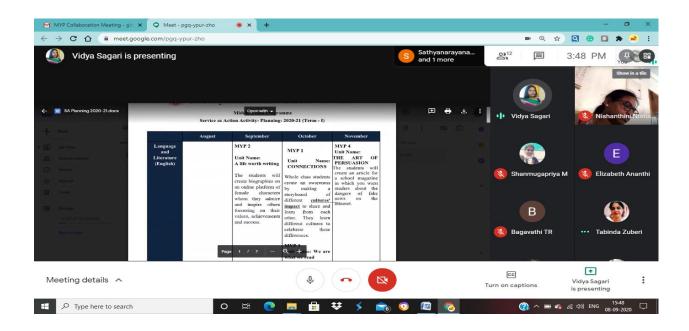




MYP Collaboration Meeting – 8th Sep 2020

Had a discussion with the MYP coordinator and the teachers on the following.

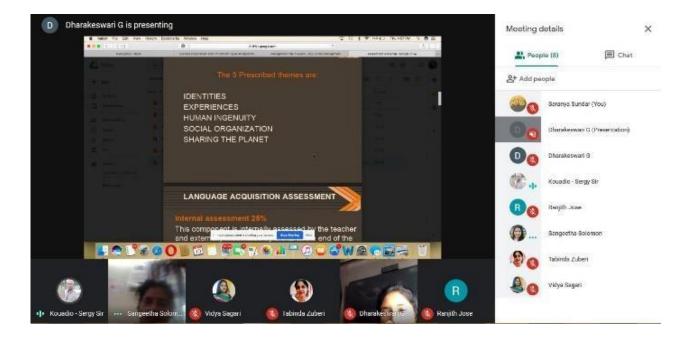
- Updating the document for planning the Service as Action programme for the academic year 2020-21 in the Google doc before 13th of Sep for both Terms I & II.
- Completion of the SA documents for following subjects: language Acquisition, I&S (MYP3 onwards), Science (MYP4) and Design.
- A reminder to update all the subjects documents in the Google drive for the academic year 2020-21.(Ex: Course overview, unit planner, etc.,)
- A reminder to update the unit planner, Services of action, resources in the Managebac.
- A reminder to update Summative Task on Exam.net for MYP4&5.
- A reminder to update Summative Task Question Paper on the Google drive in order to avoid last minute confusion.
- Discussion about the Online Classes and turning on of video at the student's end.



<u>DP Collaboration Meeting – 9th Sep 2020</u>

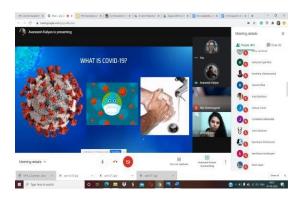
DP Collaboration meeting was held with the DP Coordinator and the DP Teachers.

Discussion on the weekly test for the students of DP and how to handle the students performance was discussed. The assessment procedures were also discussed.



COVID 19 Awareness – 10th Sep 2020

The DP1 Students of GIS created awareness on COVID 19 in the school assembly as a part of their CAS activity.





CAS Meeting – 11th Sep 2020

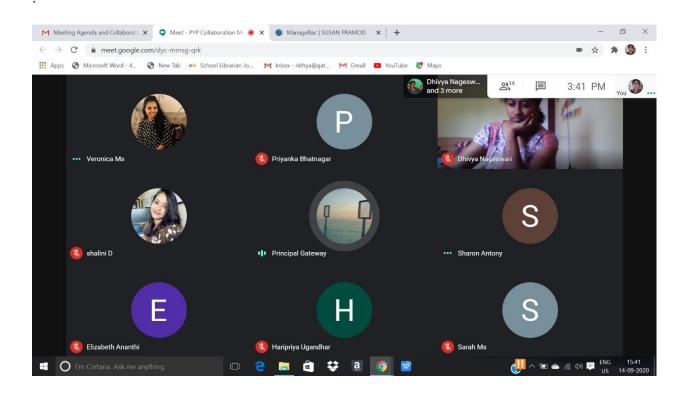
IBDP Coordinator and CAS Coordinator had a virtual meeting with Ms. Srichana and Ms. Geetanjali from Habitat organization. The Online engagement to connect students towards achieving the Social service activities for the year 2020 – 2021 was discussed.



PYP Collaboration meeting – 14th Sep 2020

Met with the PYP Coordinator and the PYP Teachers for a collaboration meeting on the 14th Sep 2020.

- Discussion on the reflection section to be completed on Managebac.
- Emphasis on picture composition from grade 3 onwards.
- Integration on the central ideas by the visual art, literature and physical education.
- Sharing of best classroom practices shared from K1-PYP 5 homeroom teachers.
- The outcome of specific subjects met up with for each class had been discussed.
- Discussion on effective English writing skills, emphasis on the picture composition and other strategies, to observe and use their thinking skills to write complete sentences.
- Differentiated teaching and learning were also discussed.

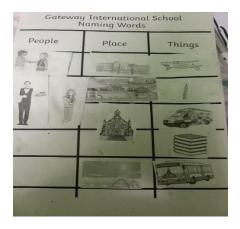


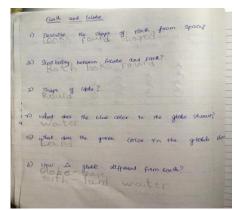
K1 &K2 Offline Activity: 14th Sep 2020

Children were involved in a fun learning that involves their imagination in collecting pictures of the words that start with the letter G and made an album of the letter G.



The students of K3 made a reflection of their learning on naming words with the given worksheets. They sorted the naming words into the various categories as names of people, place and thing.



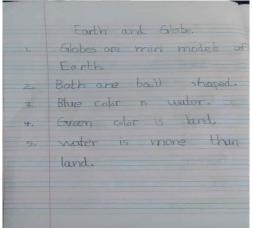


They made a word wall for their unit 'Who we are.' They were able to recollect all the words learned by them during the learning engagements in this unit. They were able to connect their learning and explain using appropriate words and excellent communication skills.

PYP1- 15th Sep 2020

The learning objective of this activity was to make the students understand that globes are







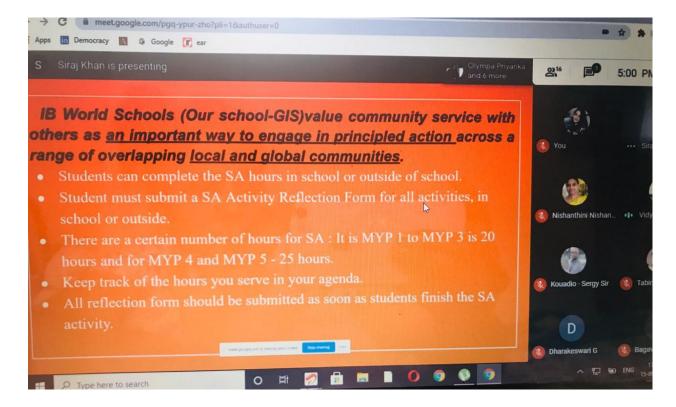
miniature models of

Earth.

The parents were requested to show the students, the picture of the Earth from space and ask them to describe its shape (a ball). Next, they showed the picture of the globe and asked to find the similarity between them (Earth & globe). Parents asked various questions from students like- What shape is the globe? (A ball) How is a globe like the Earth? How is a globe different from the Earth? What does the blue colour in the globe shows? What does the green colour in the globe shows? Students observed and understood that globes are miniature models of the Earth (a 3-dimensional model of the Earth is called the globeThey learned that there is more water on Earth than land (i.e. water covers 71% part of the Earth) that's why our earth is also called a "blue planet".

MYP Collaboration Meeting – 15th Sep 2020

Met with the MYP Coordinator and the Teachers and had a discussion regarding the postponement of the summative assessments as the online classes were cancelled from the 21st Sep to 26th Sep 2020 owing to the Government's decree. The importance of service as action, the seven outcomes that the MYP students need to address, stages of working in service as action and the documentation process.

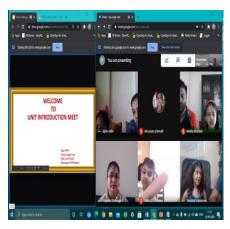


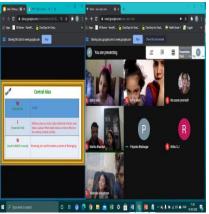
<u>Unit Introductory Session PYP1-PYP 5 – 16th Sep 2020</u>

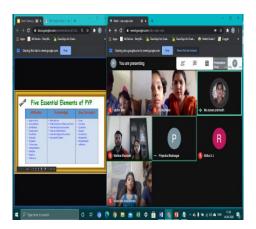
The PYP Unit-2 introduction meeting was an interactive session with parents where they got an overview of the unit. The parents participated with full zeal and gave their inputs about students' strengths, needs, and learning styles.

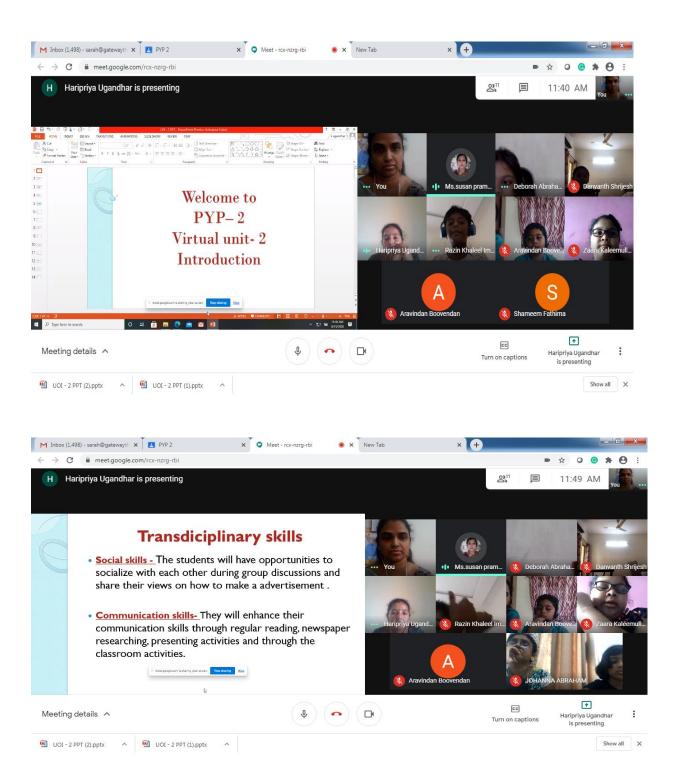
The discussions on the lines of inquiry, key concepts and related concepts that were connected to the formative and summative assessments, further integrating them with the subjects along with the subject focus were also discussed. The parents were briefed regarding the learning methodology and the tools that will further support to make the class more interesting during this unit.

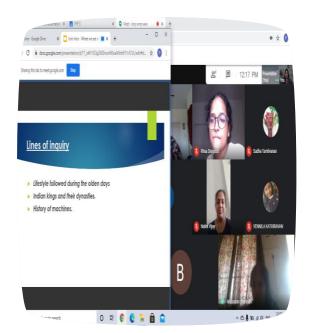
The parents gave positive feedback regarding the efforts taken by the school during these virtual classes and were elated to see their wards grow with great zeal and getting accustomed to the virtual online practices of learning.

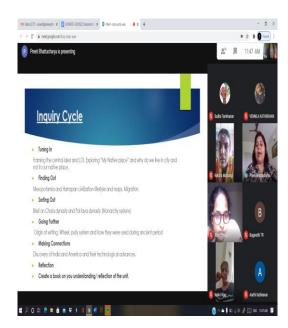






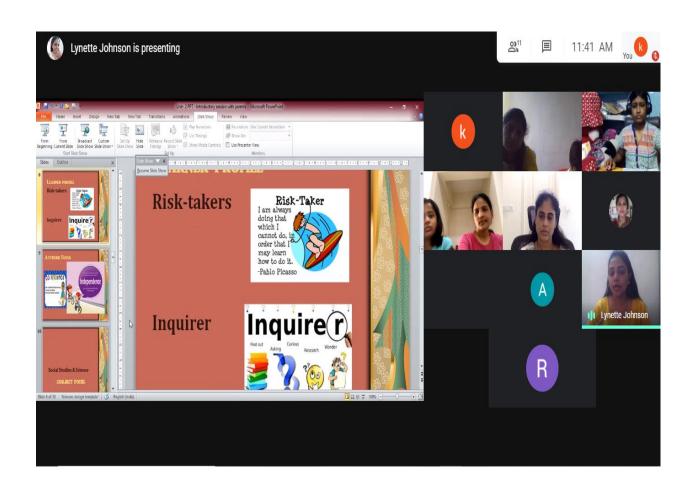




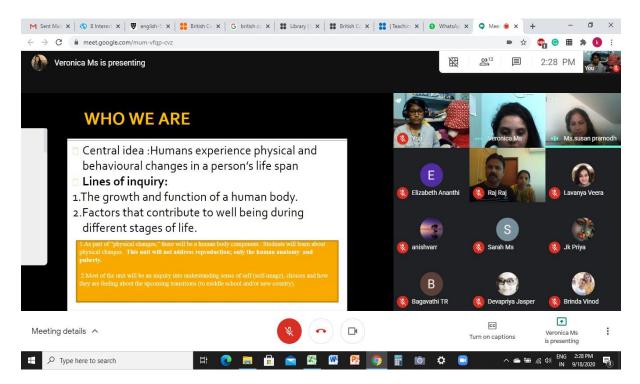


Impact of Technology on Mankind. (Causation)

The parents gave their input to include the technologies used in the field of Medicine and other suggestions were taken as a positive step and a heads up on the unit.

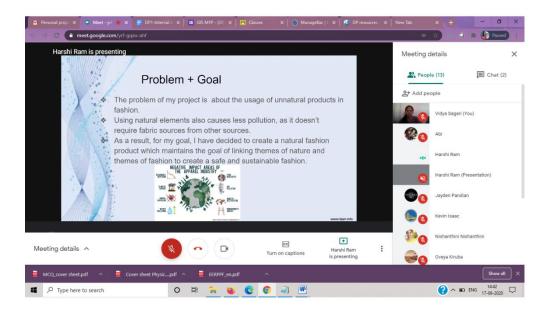


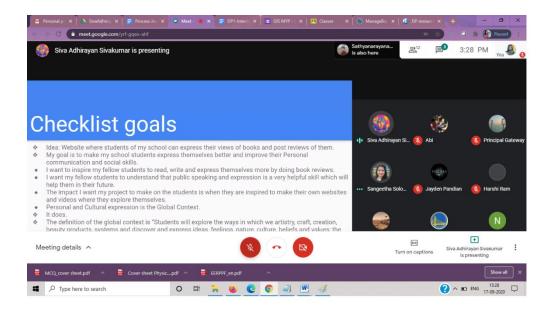




MYP 5 Students PP Criterion -17th Sep 2020

MYP 5 students' presented their personal project criterion A. Detailed feedback with respect to grade descriptors of criterion A, strands was given to the students. A morale boost was given for the students to encourage them to achieve more.





DP Collaboration Meeting - 17th Sep 2020

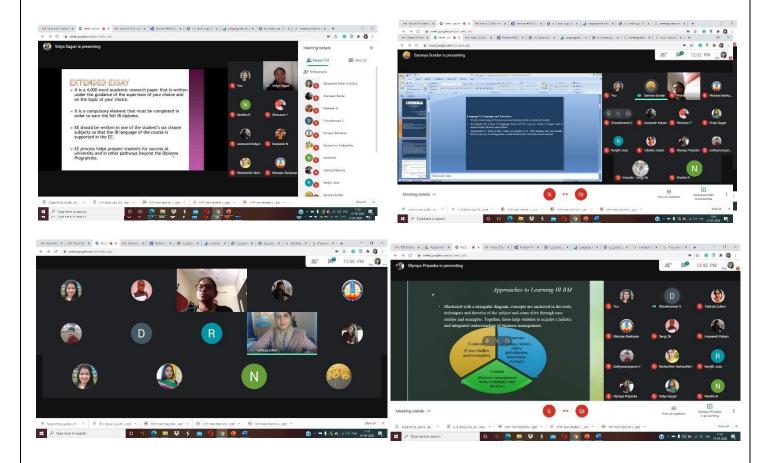
Discussion with the DP Co-ordinator and the subject teachers regarding the M21Assessment Procedures for DP. There was detailed discussion on the assessment procedures. Discussion on the timeline and the portions completions. Changes in each subject for M21 session was discussed in detail. Performance of the students were reviewed

Assessment Workshop – 19th Sep 2020

The International Baccalaureate's Diploma Programme (DP) uses both internally and externally assessed components to assess student performance. In most subjects, students also complete in-school assessment tasks. These are either externally assessed or marked by teachers and then moderated by the IB.

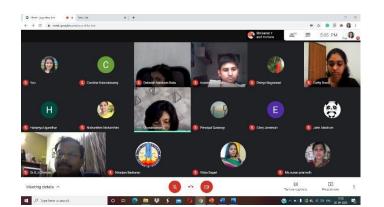
To make the parents and students of DP Year 1 well-aware of the different assessment components and procedures, an assessment workshop was scheduled between 10.30 AM and 12.30 PM on the 19th of September, 2020, on the Google Meet platform. Ms. Sangeetha Solomon, the IBDP Coordinator started the session with a brief overview of the Diploma Programme, its aims, requisites, and assessment patterns. Ms. Vidya Sagari, the Extended Essay Coordinator, Ms. Nishanthini, the Theory of Knowledge Coordinator, and Ms. Dharakeswari, the CAS Coordinator did a presentation on the requirements of the IBDP Core, individually. This was followed by presentations on the assessment objectives and patterns across different subject groups by the respective subject teachers- Ms.

Saranya on English-A: Language and Literature, Mr. Sergy on Language Acquisition, Ms. Dharakeswari on Business Management, Ms. Tabinda on History, Ms. Nivedha on Sciences, Mr. Sathyanarayanan on Computer Science and Ms. Olympa on Mathematics.



Corona Awareness Campaign - 20th Sep 2020

The Global Pandemic that we are currently in has disrupted the lives of many. The means and ways to cope up with this is still a difficult question for many. Considering this, we at Gateway IB have arranged an awareness program by Dr.G.J. Christian, Ph. d, to help the community in this precarious situation. Dr. G.J Christian is the HOD and Superintendent of National Siddha Research Institute and coordinator of COVID19 research team. The program was organized by the DP students as a part of their CAS activity. It was conducted on 20th Sep 2020, 5 PM. Cathy of DP2 gave a brief introduction of the programme. Niranjan of DP1 gave a warm welcome to the chief guest. Avaneesh of DP1 presented a statistical report on the impact of COVID 19. The session was informative with detailed analysis of the statistical data's, treatment and prevention measures.







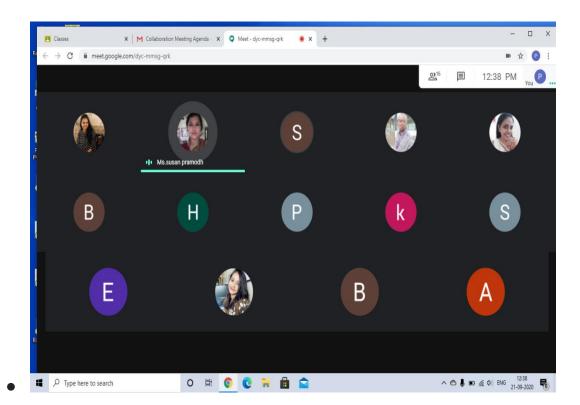


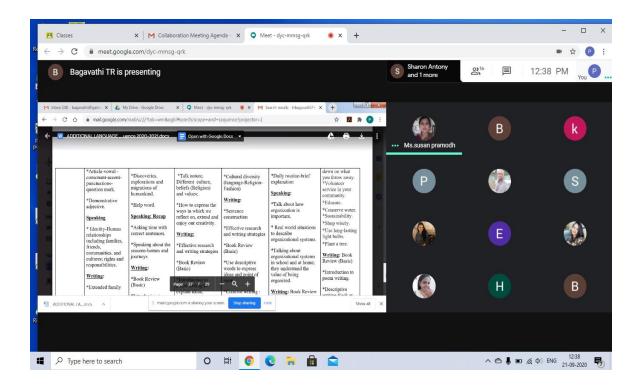
PYP Collaboration meeting – 21st Sep 2020

The following was discussed in the PYP collaboration meeting with the Coordinator and the PYP teachers.

- EYP Reflection of the unit discussion and Unit 1 Summative Assessment
- Additional Language Reflection on the scope sequence topics, all the Language strands -discussion
- 2nd Unit Introduction with parents- Reflections & suggestions
- Managebac-2nd unit completion
- The specialist Teachers discussed on the integration of their subjects with the units.
- Differentiated teaching and learning were also discussed-activity based virtual online strategies based on students' needs discussed.

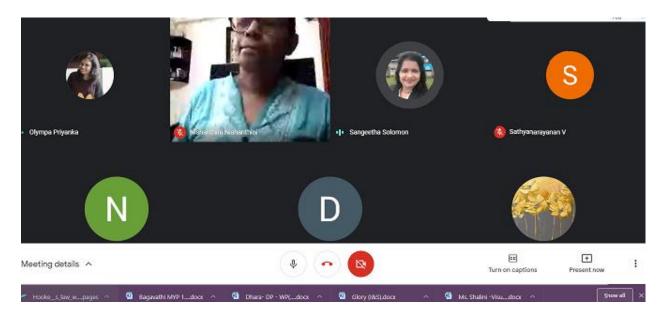
- Unit 1 Summative Assessment discussed on all the classes of EYP, the teachers discussed on the task and the open-ended activity for the students, discussions on the rubrics that were shared to the teachers.
- Discussion on effective Agency implemented where age group of 3-6 students have their choice, voice and ownership with guided support of the teachers, and an effective, creative Visual art teaching and learning atmosphere integrating the subjects and the topics.
- Discussion on the second unit the planning section to be completed to be updated in Managebac.





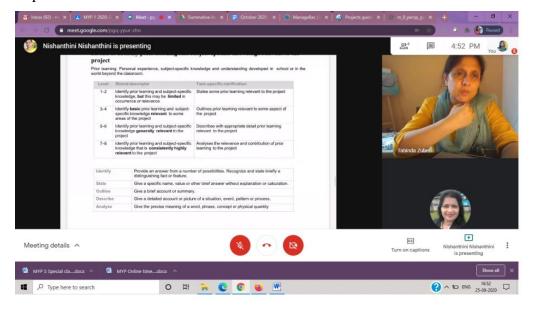
MYP Collaboration Meeting – 21St Sep 2020

The requirement of the end of unit summative assessment was discussed. The relevance of statement of inquiry (SOI), the command terms, the assessment criteria and their strands were discussed. She also explained a sample summative assessment paper with the grade descriptors.



PP Assessment – 25th Sep 2020

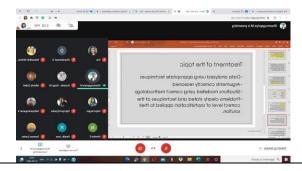
PP Assessment workshop session with program coordinators, PP coordinator and new PP Supervisors.



<u>DP Collaboration Meeting – 22th Sep 2020</u>

Discussion with the DP Co-ordinator and the subject teachers regarding the Extended essay internal assessment in DP

- Maths facilitators Ms. Olympa and Ms. Shanmugapriya presented the Extended essay assessment procedures in Mathematics
- In depth discussion on the assessment criteria was discussed
- There was brief discussion on the framing research questions and the topic selection
- Ms. Vidya Sagari, physics facilitator presented the Physics IA assessment criteria
- Detailed discussion on assessment criteria with an exemplar and explained the examiners comments.

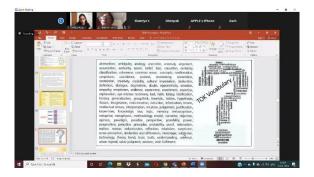


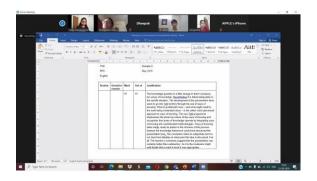


<u>Collaboration with the TOK Expert – 23rd Sep 2020</u>

Theory of knowledge (TOK) plays a special role in the International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme (DP), by providing an opportunity for students to reflect on the nature of knowledge, and on how we know what we claim to know. It is one of the components of the DP core and is mandatory for all students. The TOK requirement is central to the educational philosophy of the DP. TOK Coordinator Ms. Ganga of Lalaji International School collaborated with the students on 23rd September to guide them in their TOK presentation.





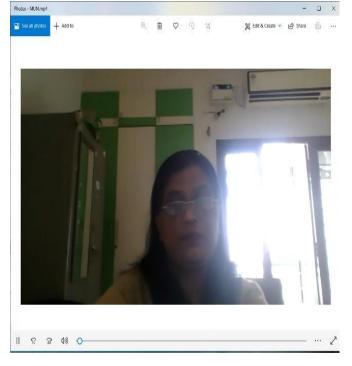




MUN - 26th September

GIS students organized GIS Intra-School Model United Nations for the students of MYP 3 to DP2 on the 26th of September, 8 AM.

GIS MUN is an educational simulation and academic activity in which students can learn about diplomacy, international relations, and the United Nations. There were two important committees of the United Nations- the first one is DISEC or Disarmament and International security



committee. This committee addressed and dealt with issues that are related to disarmament challenges to global security as well as threats to international peace. The second one is UNHRC or United Nations Human rights council. The United Nations Human Rights Council is a United Nations body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights around the world. The agendas for both committees were

DISEC- China's expansionist policy and its implications on world peace and stability UNHRC- Human Rights Issue in Kashmir.











EYP-K2-Nittara

Nittara is an enthusiastic and Knowledgeable child who has a tendency to learn and grasp whatever is taught to her and learns by keen observation. She displays creativity and involvement in the learning engagements and actively participates with her peers. She is a good communicator who never hesitates to share her ideas and is very interactive during the class. She has attributed the IB learner profile, 'Knowledgeable', and 'Principled,' as she listens, cooperates, reflects on the learning, and submits her work on time.

PYP 3-Darshita

Darshita is a smart and intelligent child. She is a very well balanced and strong thinker. She excels at most things she puts her mind and effort into, so much so, she makes learning and understanding of concepts seem almost easy. She is a dedicated student with a very curious mind. She tries to relate all her learnings of her everyday life and likes to explore the world around her. Darshita has attributed the IB learner profile as being a 'Balanced' and is an 'Inquirer' and is nominated the "Student of the month award' for the month of September.

MYP 5 - Kevin Issac

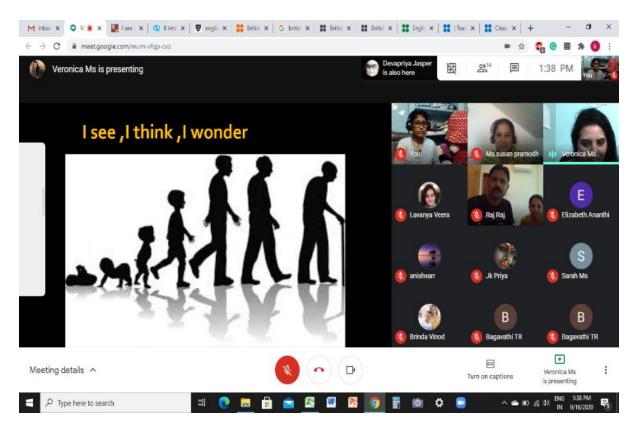
Kevin Isaac from MYP 5, is awarded as the student of the month of September for exhibiting the IB learner attribute 'Communicator'. He was one of the member in the GIS MUN organising team and exhibited excellent communication and organization skills during the event.

DP 1 – Niranjan Baskaran

The student of the month of September is awarded to *Niranjan Baskaran of DP1 for being* "Risk Taker".

He approaches unfamiliar situations with courage and forethought. He is having the spirit to explore new roles, strategies and ideas. He is also brave in expressing and articulating in defending his belief.







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THANK YOU!!!

