

# NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2021 GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL







This edition of Newsletter brings to the events and happenings of the month of December 2021.

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#### PYP-Professional Development Workshop – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021

Workshop Module-Making the PYP Happen-Implementing Agency in the PYP - CAT 1

PD Facilitator: Ms Sangeeta Pratti

Participants: Ms Letishia, Ms Susan, Mr Jayeesh, Ms Sharon, Ms Nasiha, Ms Arti, Ms Haripriya, Ms Shweta, Ms Lynette, Ms Glory, Ms Elizabeth.

- During the first day of the workshop the facilitator tuned and brainstormed on the various activities that were planned for the day and also asked the teachers to introduce themselves.
- Thinking Routine-To understand how the IB mission statement is in par with the GIS Mission statement-what words are best describe and a Venn diagram was used to demonstrate it.
- The resource on The 3 pillars of PYP were shared and using the strategy

Connect - Extend - Challenge – the teachers brought out their thought process, this This routine is one that helps students fasten ideas together and that raises awareness of

puzzles worth for their attention. The use of this routine offers a structure and space in which new thinking around a topic, as inspired by new learning experiences, can be made visible.

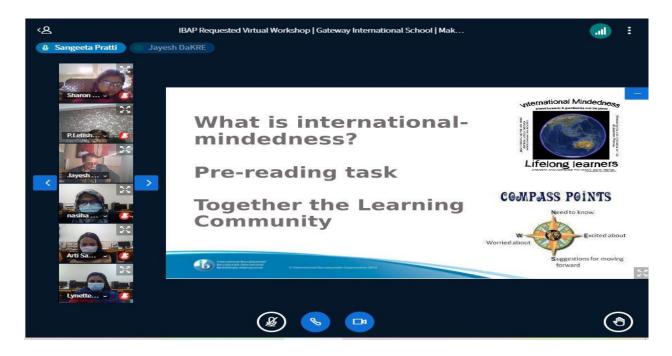
- ATL- Approaches to Learning skills were discussed and was understood by a strategy.
- Exploring the IB learner profile-What they look like in different places-and the teachers were made to identify and articulate 3 attributes of the IB learner profile in different scenarios.
- POI-Transdisciplinary Theme Understanding Descriptors and how it needs to be covered across the class in a vertical way.
- A Paper plane activity to encompass the various skills involved
- International Mindedness- What is an International minded person was discussed.
- How does Language support Transdisciplinary learning-Student agency and action
- Multilingualism-How does language support Learner agency was discussed
- Evidence in Learning -Assessment Tools & the different strategies.
- Self-adjusters -Discussion on Agency feedback, feed forward, reflection, setting goals, showing improved performance

#### Day 2

- Tic-tac-toe A strategy to understand the Commonalities, different personalities, respecting individualities that can be facilitated in classroom environment.
- Concept driven learning -Differences between concepts and facts

- Key concepts-How it is linked to the lines of inquiry
- Related concepts-More of subject integration
- Central Idea Criteria checklist
- The inquiry process-How the inquiry looks like exploring, wondering, questioning, experimenting, playing, collection of data
- Strategies as example on Campfire inquiring stories
- Agency and Inquiry -To develop students Agency, the students to be provoked with lots of questions
  and a strategy was imposed with the teachers in the workshop to reflect on -I am the Agent of my
  learning
- Tall tower building co-constructing success criteria
- Characteristics of different types of inquiry
- Differentiated Inquiry based on learner's needs
- The planning process and role of planner collaboration, POI, UOI
- Reflection -321exit ticket-Finally the Teachers reflected to the questions that were given in the Exit ticket-1. What three things you learned in the workshop 2. 2 ways you may start or continue in your classroom 3.1 question you may still have.

<u>Outcome</u>: The teachers comprehended the making the PYP happen and implementing agency, teaching and learning in the different environments, and different areas of improvement. It was indeed worthwhile listening to the newly introduced terminology and the enhanced approach of teaching and learning in the PYP.







#### PYP Meeting Agenda and Minutes – 6th Dec 2021

The following were discussed in the PYP collaboration meeting.

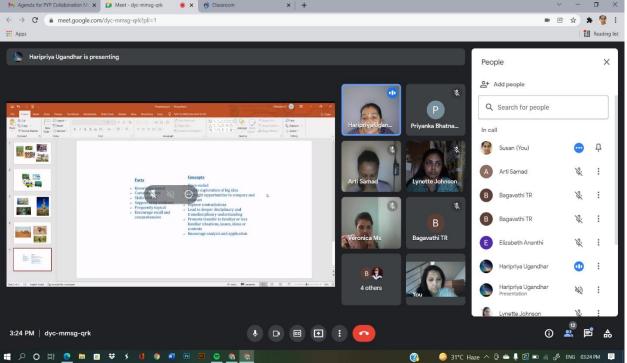
• Ms Arti demonstrated the approach of Transdisciplinary learning and using descriptors to plan vertically in central ideas.

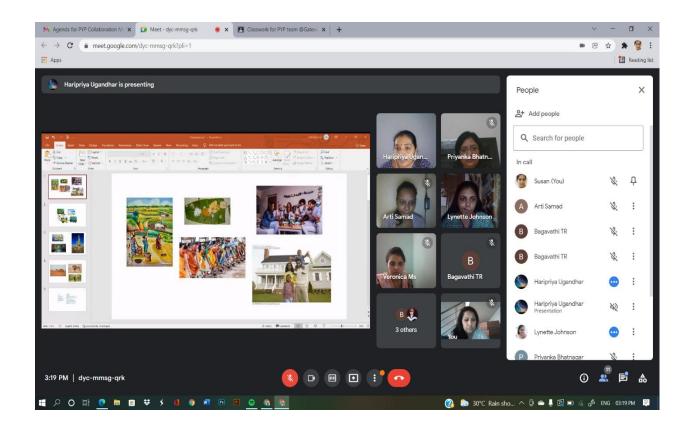
- Transdisciplinary learning design deepens students' understanding of complex ideas-the meaning of transdisciplinary and how to incorporate ideas into learning practices.
- The planning of our curriculum with regard to the descriptors suiting the transdisciplinary theme and vertically planned across the classes.
- Ms Haripriya touched upon the Concept based learning which is the main element of the IB.
- Explanation on how the concepts are powerful, broad and abstract organizing ideas that may be transdisciplinary or subject-based. They represent the vehicle for students' inquiry into the opportunities and challenges of local with global significance
- Concepts are concise; they are usually represented by one or two words.
- Concept-based inquiry is a powerful vehicle for learning that promotes meaning and
- understanding, and challenges students to engage with significant ideas.
- Concepts help to build understandings across, between and beyond subjects.
- Key concepts provide a lens for conceptual understandings within a transdisciplinary unit of inquiry; related concepts provide a lens for conceptual understandings within a specific subject.
- Examples were clearly stated using real time objects or issues and how the questions are framed using the key concepts were connected.
- Ms Lynette demonstrated the Student Agency and how effectively it has a role in the development of the PYP learning.

Discussions on dates and submissions of term 1 documents-The teachers were informed on the document's submission and completion of work in managebac.

• The reports on the gradebook to be completed by the deadline.

My Agenda for PYP Collaboration M. X My Meet - dyc-mmsg-cyk X Y Classroom X Y +





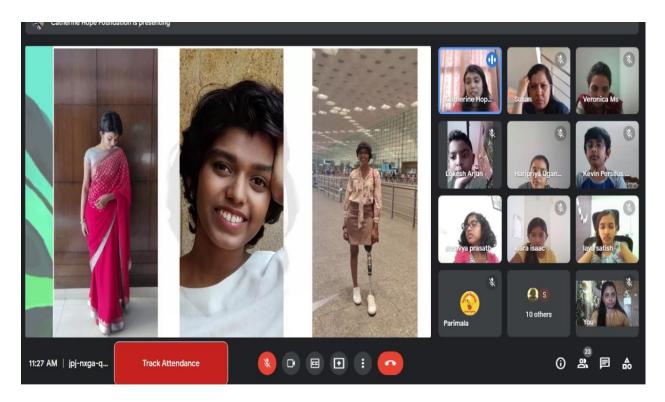
# Guest Lecture - 'Inclusion is within everyone's ability - 10th Dec 2021

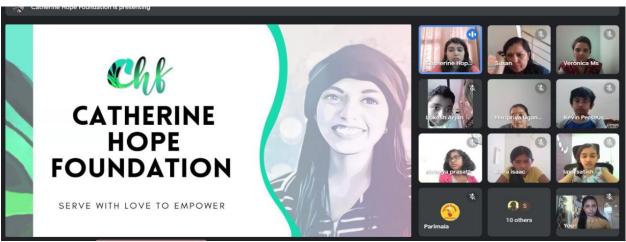
Guest speaker: Graciana Selvinson

The PYP-4 &5 Students had the privilege to attend a guest lecture session that discussed, 'Inclusion is within everyone's ability'. The resource person was Ms. Graciana Selvinson, the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Catherine Hope Foundation. Her personal story and passion to work amongst children with Special needs was highly motivational and encouraged our students to be an Ambassador of Change.

Various examples were given on Inclusive ways, and the students eagerly interacted on the different ways of how they fundamentally have to reach out with people with different needs and abilities.

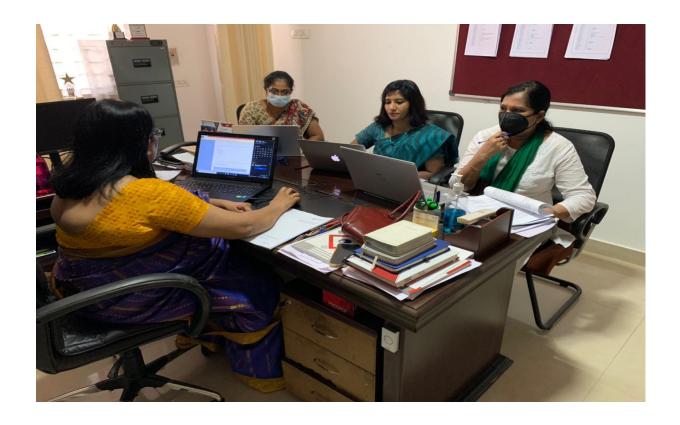
The students discussed how they need to embrace inclusive students and involve them happily and to lend a helping hand showing act of kindness towards them.





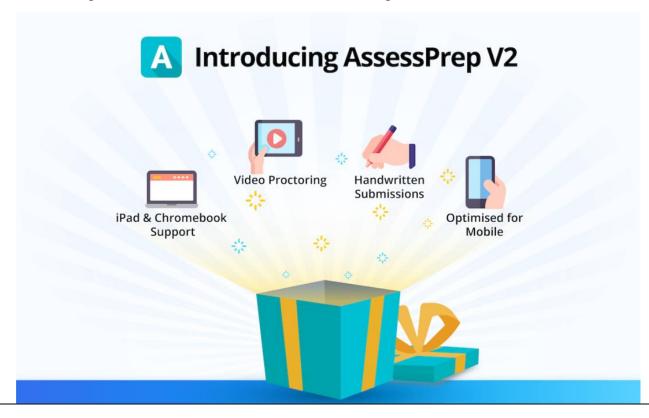
### Collaboration Meeting – 7th Dec 2021

Ahead of our scheduled evaluation visit, the Head of the school along with the Coordinators of all programs collaboratively discussed the important deadlines to be met. Timelines to prepare the requirements and the collaboration with parents and students were discussed and finalized.



# Assess prep Demonstration – 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021

The MYP and DP Coordinators team attended a demo session with Sam Estebanez from the Managebac team on 8th December to analyze the various features in Assess Prep to make the students be involved in the e-assessment platform similar to that of IB. The coordinators cleared their doubts on the various ways in which the Assess Prep could be used for assessments. It will be a really useful platform for students to practice their assessments in the e-assessment platform similar to that of IB.



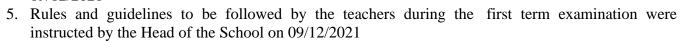
#### Collaboration Meeting with Principal – 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021

The Principal had a discussion with both the MYP and DP teachers regarding the rules and regulations that is to be followed during the term examination and the arrangements that need to be made for the examination that is scheduled from 10th December 2021. An exam cell in charge is allocated the responsibility to ensure that everything runs smoothly.

# MYP Collaboration Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021

The following were discussed in the MYP collaboration meeting.

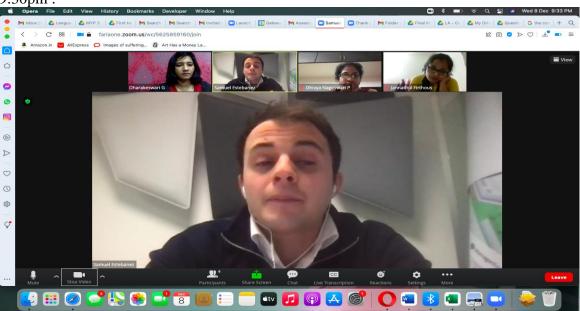
- 1. Teachers were instructed to complete ATL Horizontal progression chart
- 2. IDU was discussed in the collaboration meeting and all the teachers were asked to follow the new IDU guide for all the classes except for MYP5
- 3. School profile was submitted as required by the evaluation norms on 10/12/2021
- 4. Intensive revision was done to all the students from MYP1 to MYP5 till 09/12/2021



6. First term examination commenced from 10/12/2021

## Webinar on Assess Prep – 9th Dec 2021

Ms. Dhara (MYP Coordinator), Ms. Dhivya(DP Associate Coordinator and Ms. Jannath(MYP Associate Coordinator) attended the webinar assess prep webinar with Mr. Sam (Managebac team) to get knowledge about the forum for conducting exams to MYP students in the pattern of E-Assessment on 09/12/2021 at 9.30pm.

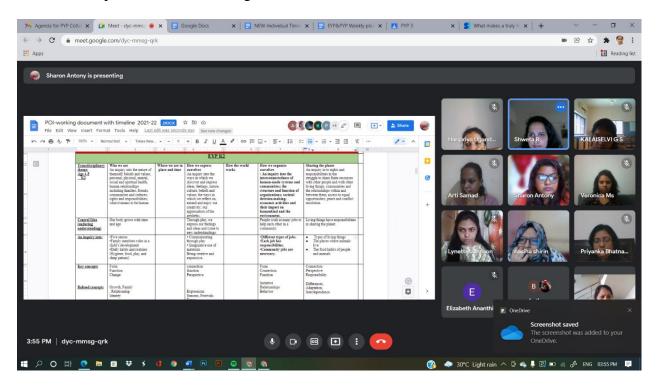




### PYP Collaboration Meeting - 13th Dec 2021

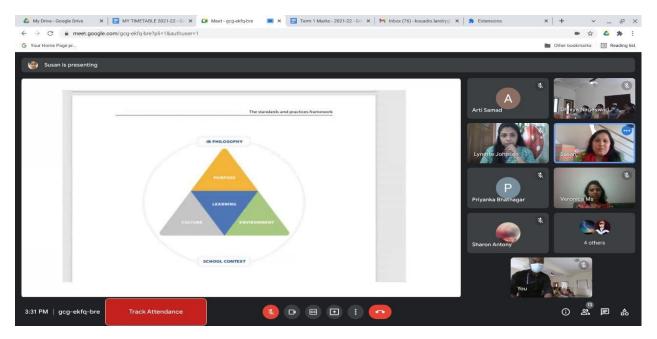
The following were discussed in the PYP Collaboration meeting.

- POI Vertical collaboration-The teachers had a reflection of the Programme of Inquiry to check on the elements of PYP and to ensure that it is disseminated across the themes.
- EYP &PYP the teachers during the collaboration meeting was given the opportunity to read through the descriptions of the Transdisciplinary themes of their class and fixed the central idea for their class.
- For K1&PYP 1 &2 the teachers discussed on the changes that had been made understanding the theme description and reframing the central idea with creating the lines of inquiry and connecting it with the key concepts.
- The subjects were also discussed for the units.
- Further the teachers had a few general questions related to the completion on the work in Managebac and the report comments in the gradebook.



# <u>Collaboration Meeting – PYP</u>, <u>MYP</u> and <u>DP</u> - 14<sup>th</sup> <u>December 2021:</u>

The Whole school collaboration meeting was conducted by our Principal explaining the key points that needed to be carried out for the evaluation process and the meeting was continued by our PYP Coordinator, Ms Susan Pramodh to facilitate our IB team with the Programme standards and practices. Teachers were made familiar with the practices that have been implemented as per the requirements of IB. Teachers were guided on the purposes section of the programme implementation.



Collaboration Meeting - PYP, MYP and DP - 16th and 17th Dec 2021



Teachers joined together for the whole school collaboration meeting for the practices on the Environment for the implementation of IB programmes based on the programme standards and practices. Teachers collaboratively provided the list of documents maintained by them in their programme which could be provided as evidence for the strands listed in the programme standards and practice.



# 18th December 2021: DP Collaboration Meeting:

Our DP coordinator, Ms Letishia Harris conducted the meeting with DP2 teachers to verify the status of the Internal Assessment completion of DP2 students. Teachers gave a clear explanation on the status and the deadline for completion of the Internal assessments of our DP2 students. After verifying the deadlines to be met, coordinator instructed the teachers to guide the students to complete their Internal assessments before the deadline and informed the teachers on the meeting scheduled with Ms Sharanya for IO orientation of Language and Literature



# Whole School Collaboration Meeting- 18th Dec 2021

Teachers of the Whole school were involved in an activity to make the teachers involve themselves and provide their suggestions on the various strands in the programme stands and practices followed by the review of the data collected from all teachers. Teachers understood the "Learning Station strategy" and shared their knowledge effectively based on each strand shared with them. Teachers collaboratively decided on making the Curriculum review policy that needs to be made before the evaluation process as evidence of the Coherent curriculum planning with reference to the local, state and national bodies.





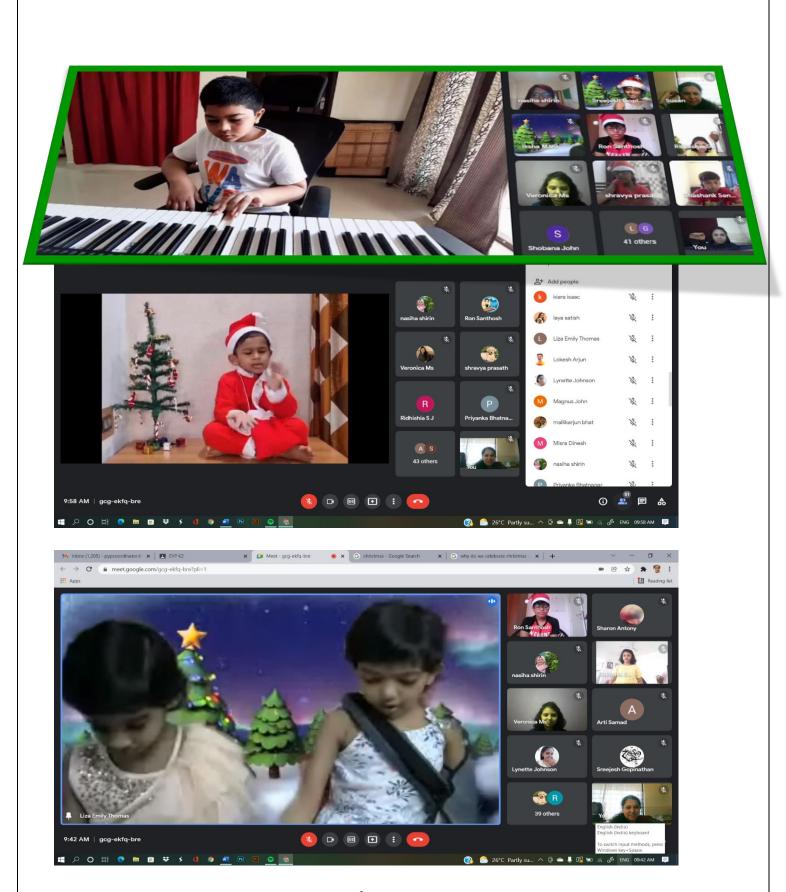
EYP &PYP Christmas Celebrations – 20th Dec 2021

Christmas is the festival that inspires the spirit of sharing and caring. Soaking into the spirit of Christmas, the PYP students celebrated the festival with great enthusiasm on December 20th, 2021, by participating in various events. The cultural program started with the prayers to the Almighty. Everybody prayed for the permanent existence of love and peace in this during the unprecedent World.

Subsequently, the videos of students who participated in various events were displayed. There upon, students enjoyed playing freeze dance and wished each other a blissful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Towards the end of the program, the coordinator explained the significance of the festival to the students. The boundless joy of celebrating the festival was visible on

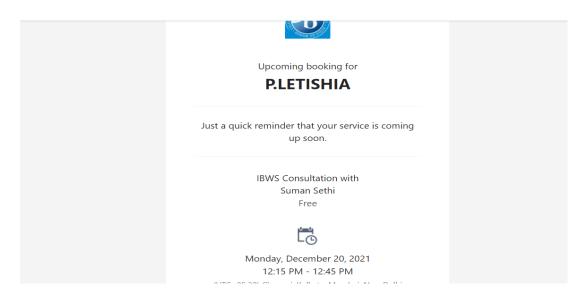
the faces of all the children.



 $\underline{IBWS\ Meeting\ with\ Suman\ Sethi-20^{th}\ Dec\ 2021}$ 

A collaboration meeting was arranged among the IBWS Manager for our School, Ms Suman Sethi

and the team of coordinators along with our Principal attended the meeting. The plan and the preparation for the evaluation visit were discussed in this session. Our MYP Coordinator, Ms Dharakeswari discussed the submission of unit planners for the revised subject guide as well. It was an informative session and proved to be beneficial for the upcoming evaluation visit.



# Whole School Collaboration – 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021

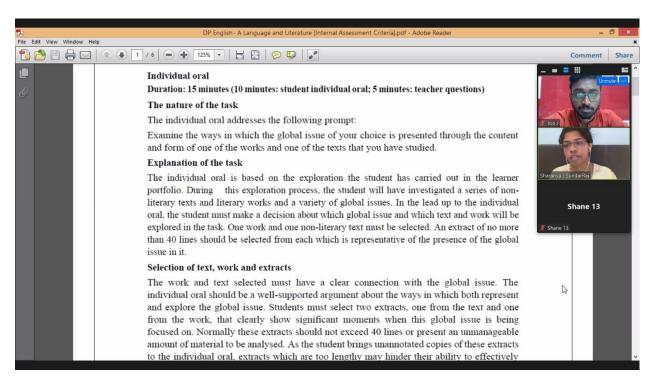
Teachers collaboratively discussed the various standards that were implemented in the classroom to make the students lifelong learners. The collaboration guided the teachers to identify the various ways in which the documentation should be maintained to reflect on the lifelong learners' strand of Programme standards and practices.





# <u>IO Orientation by Ms Sharanya – 21st Dec 2021</u>

Discussion on Internal Assessment for DP Language and Literature was conducted by Ms Sharanya. The selection of topics, the nuances to approach and develop an ideas based on the global issue, obstacles faced during presenting individual oral and the teacher's role in assisting students were discussed. Areas of exploration and the course outline along with the texts to deal further were discussed as well.



# <u>Christmas Celebration – 21st Dec 2021</u>

Student Council Members of GIS IB took an initiative to make this Christmas celebration a memorable day for all the students of MYP and DP. Students made arrangements for various events like Christmas carols, skits, dance and games like a treasure hunt and squid game. Niranjan from DP2 performed a one-man show dedicating his performance to all his DP2 teachers. It was a day well spent, and a great note to start the holiday season !!!

















#### Shriyah - EYP

Shriyah is an obedient learner. She has attributed the IB Learner profile as being knowledgeable and a very good communicator. She positively displays her social skills in all her learning engagements. She is a principled and self-disciplined child. She takes an active role in the discussion and has proved herself efficiently in the virtual platform by inquiring through learning. She shows responsible behaviour, works well with a group and shows appreciation for the efforts of her classmates.

#### Johanna - PYP

Johanna is a compassionate, well-behaved, and conscientious member of the class whose enthusiasm for learning is evident daily. She is hardworking and independently attempts all the tasks. She is extremely energetic and actively participates by doing experiential learning and citing a lot of real-life examples in her inquiry process. She possesses an IB Learner profile of being a good Communicator and Inquirer. Her work exceeds expectations and she is always willing to learn more. She is continually appreciated for her reading and writing abilities and for taking ownership of doing any learning tasks and extracurricular activities that are given to her.

#### Saavi – MYP(1-3)

Saavi of MYP3 has been nominated as the best student of the month as she has shown diligence and determination to approach her goals despite difficulties. Saavi is a great collaborator and courageous to accept others' views. She displays the attribute of "Risk taker" as her learner profile.

#### Varshini - MYP (4-5)

Varshini of MYP 4 displays the attribute of being a good"Inquirer". She is excellent in collaborating with her peers and exhibits commendable critical thinking skills. She is also respectful towards her teachers and peers

#### Niranjan- DP

Niranjan is awarded as the Student of the Month for the month of December 2021 for exhibiting the attributes of the IB Learner profile "Communicator". He had conducted the Student Council Meeting periodically and portrayed himself with the best leadership qualities while organizing the Christmas Celebration on our school campus. He took control of all the MYP and DP students and conducted the event successfully following the COVID safety protocols. He contributed his one-man show program to all his DP teachers as a token of love and respect with huge applause from the entire school community.



# **PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASK**

Avoid close contact with others to prevent spread of COVID-19

If you cant Stay Home, Stay apart!

Maintain a distance of 2 meters from others.



# **COVID – 19 SYMPTOMS**

High Fever

Dry Cough

**Sore Throat** 

**Difficulty in Breathing** 

#### **HOW IT SPREADS**

Air by Cough or Sneeze

**Personal Contact** 

**Contaminated Objects** 

**Mass Gathering** 

#### **PREVENTION**

Wash your Hands often

Wear a Face Mask

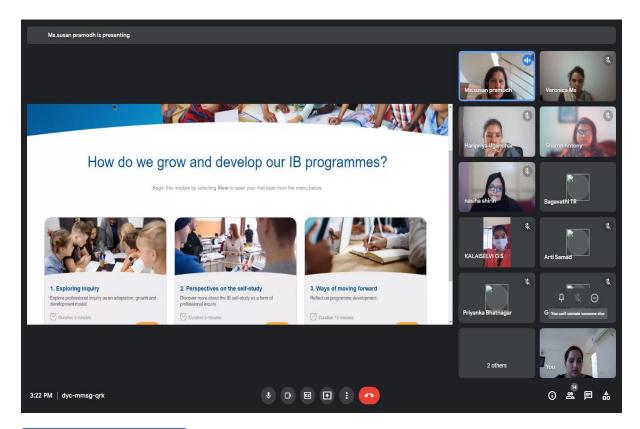
**Avoid Contact with Sick People** 

**Always Cover Your Cough or Sneeze** 

STAY SAFE, GET VACCINATED AND MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING

**TOGETHER WE CAN FIGHT THIS PANDEMIC** 







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. We post events of GIS 'Learning Engagements'.

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**THANK YOU!!!**