

GMS NEWSLETTER

JUNE 15, 2020

EDITION #5



From the Principal's Desk



Student leadership at GMS truly reflects the quality of students we have in our wonderful school. The students who have been invested have gone through interviews and a very rigorous selection process. It is most important that we get the selection of our student leaders right, for they have an active role in decision-making across the school. It is they who decide the school climate, the improvement projects and make our school a place where students want to be, where every child feels safe, happy and like they belong.

Students, congratulations to you on being inducted into these very important leadership positions. You each have been recognised for your personal leadership characteristics. Great leaders don't set out to be just leaders.... they set out to make a difference. It's never about the role – it's always about the goal. Leadership is about the decisions you make and the actions that you take each day. A badge is not to be worn with arrogance but with humility. Good leaders use power to empower the powerless.

A big part of leadership has a lot to do with communication. There is enough evidence to suggest that communication follows the 55, 38, 7 Mehrabian rule. 55% of what you communicate is through your actions, your facial expressions, what you are wearing and how you are wearing it (simply translated, your uniform - how smartly you are turned out and how you are groomed), your gestures, your posture – how you carry yourself! 38% is in the tone, pitch, the speed and the rhythm of your voice. An incredible 93% of what you communicate is non-verbal. What you actually say – the words that you speak - makes up only 7% of all communication.

This year you have a great opportunity to forge your own style of leadership, and to change the status quo!

Have a clear understanding of your role; work with passion; and have the ability to make others feel charged and energized.

Keep lines of communication open so those you are in charge of feel free to share concerns and ideas.

Through your moral strength, be an inspiration; motivating others to be good human beings – good human beings who are compassionate, and who value and respect others.

And, most important of all, stand up for what is right, even when it means that you are standing alone, not bowing to peer pressure. It is about being accountable to those you serve.

We wish you the best for all the challenges that lie ahead of you.

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD 2020-2021

JUNE 15, 2020



LEADING THE PREFECTORIAL BOARD FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020 -2021



ABHI SHARMA

HEAD BOY



SHIVNA BHATIA

HEAD GIRL

Congratulations

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD 2020-2021

JUNE 15, 2020



Our Head Boy's First Speech.....

Starting off, it was the year 2012 when a student who had never experienced life outside India, travelled to the UAE and witnessed an entirely new world. For him, his first school entrance exams were very challenging, besides, he was the one who used to cry and be naughty most of the times.

This is his story... the bygone days of Abhi Sharma, who is now standing before you all with overwhelming pride and contentment for being the newly elected HEAD BOY of GEMS MILLENNIUM SCHOOL, Sharjah for the academic year 2020-2021. This wouldn't have happened without the support of my lovely parents and of course my amazing school.

The 8-year long journey with GMS is ever cherishable.

Our school with its name GMS, is closest to GEMS and in alignment with it, in quality too, it has proved its worth in rendering effective education in the best way possible, throughout all these years.

Even though we have been through a predicament these days, we have managed to conduct this wonderful and novel Virtual Prefectural Investiture Ceremony, and on behalf of all the students of GMS, I would like to render my heart felt gratitude to our dear Principal, the SLT and our school staff.

Being the Deputy Head Boy, I'd learnt many new ideals through a variety of experiences, for the past one year. But the one which persists in my mind always is never to fear, instead take up every challenges and responsibilities that come to me as a young leader and treat them as my obligations. I am really happy to admire my dear seniors- MY GURUS, the exemplary leaders who paved the way of encouragement for me.

It is said that - An individual's success requires the involvement of many other skillful hands than that of the person's own - FOR MINE, THE CREDIT GOES TO MY SUPERB TEACHERS who have inculcated a valuable message in my mind...

"IF YOU SWEAT HARD IN THE PRACTICE, THE GAME WOULD BECOME EASIER FOR YOU".

I would like to express my sincere gratefulness for all the hard work put in, by the TEAM GMS for my successful fruition.

Let me take you through a story ...Once there were 2 lumps of carbon, one lost hope and had let the conditions to define who he was and was finally burnt at someone's fireplace, but at the same time the other one rose in its prevailing conditions and grew in brilliance and radiance.

The same holds true to all my fellow members of the prefectural board, who have worked hard to showcase their brilliance in every possible situation and you have reaped the harvest for your hard work. Let's keep aflame the torch of GMS together with the brightest illumination and live our days here joyfully as we step onto the ladder of leadership. Now wishing you all the very best for the upcoming years to prove the essence of your leadership quality with utmost commitment and dedication.

I would like to end my speech with a quote to be shared during this unprecedented time to evoke our thoughts- "CORONA HERE CORONA THERE, BUT PLEASE DO SPARE, SOME TIME TO THANK OUR HEALTHCARE, WORKING FOR OUR WELFARE....AND YES. EVERYBODY PLEASE DO TAKE CARE"STAY SAFE, STAY HEALTHY!!

Our Head Girl's First Speech.....

"I have a dream." . These famous words became a part of the inspiring speech by the great Martin Luther King in the 1960s. I too have dreams. From a very young age, I idolized the senior student leaders and dreamt of stepping into their shoes. But I not only wanted to grow up and be a leader, I also wished to develop as a person and become a contributing member of the society. Although I have spent only couple of years at GMS, it very soon became a second home for me. Every moment spent here has become another enriching story to tell. GMS has become my defining identity. It is a place for students, where there is always the freedom of thoughts and words. Thus, my growth here, my changing outlook with a mature perception has shaped the vision of my future. From dreaming in black and white, GMS empowered me to dream in colors.

I learnt that it is important

"To dream the impossible dream,

To fight the unbeatable foe,

To bear with unbearable sorrow,

To run where the brave dare not go.

To try when your arms are too weary,

To reach the unreachable star."

I no longer fear of burning bridges because GMS has taught me how to build my own.

Good evening one and all present here. I, Shivna Bhatia, feel exceptionally honoured and privileged to be appointed as the Head Girl of GEMS Millennium School, Sharjah

As a child, if you have read fictional tales, you would know that there are characters who always seem to be by your side. If my memory serves me right, we refer to them as guardian angels. The guardian angels in my story are no different. If this is anything in return to what I have received, here is a heartfelt extension of all my gratitude to each one of you.

To our Principal, Headmistress, Supervisors and Teachers – I thank you from the core of my heart for instilling confidence in me, making me believe in my abilities, entrusting me with the responsibility of Head Girl and providing me the opportunity to serve the school.

Above all, my parents and my brother - words can do no justice to the love and emotions I possess in my heart for you. Mom and Dad, thank you for your constant support and guidance. I hope I always make you proud. With great power, comes great responsibility. I believe that a leader is one whose courage to fulfill the vision comes from passion, not position. It is the influence and not the authority. I see the role of Head Girl as that of responsibility, discipline, sincerity, kindness and empathy. These are the pillars on which my ideals are based. As a student leader, I take it as my responsibility to align student's conduct and behavior with the principles and expectations of the school. Moreover, encourage them towards greater involvement in school activities; motivate them to use the opportunities provided by the school and participate with both zeal to learn and a spirit to excel.

Coming together is the beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success. We will have to concede that one can go fast alone, but to go further, we must walk together with a spirit of collaboration, camaraderie and mutual respect. I assure you that I will leave no stone unturned to support you, my fellow mates to empower yourself and build bridges on your own to achieve your true potential. There will be many challenges ahead and I am looking forward to them.

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD 2020-2021

JUNE 15, 2020



ANURAAG SAHA
SPORTS CAPTAIN



ROSANNE JOHNY
SPORTS CAPTAIN



ARIA RAJ
ECO CAPTAIN



VIPIN VETRI
WELL BEING AMBASSADOR

Congratulations



BHAGYASHREE LOMESH PATIL
WELL BEING AMBASSADOR

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD 2020-2021

JUNE 15, 2020



MUHAMMED ADIL MELAKANDY

SUMMER HOUSE CAPTAIN



FIZA FATHIMA

SUMMER HOUSE CAPTAIN



ARYAN VENKATESWARAN

AUTUMN HOUSE CAPTAIN



NEHA ROSS LENIN

AUTUMN HOUSE CAPTAIN

Congratulations



ANTHONY JACOB

AUTUMN HOUSE CAPTAIN



TANISHA THEJASVI

AUTUMN HOUSE CAPTAIN



JOHAN JOHN THOMAS

SPRING HOUSE CAPTAIN



SOHA SHOWKATH

SPRING HOUSE CAPTAIN

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD 2020-2021

JUNE 15, 2020



ANIRUDH AJITH KUMAR
DEPUTY HEAD BOY



RIA MOOPEN
DEPUTY HEAD GIRL

Congratulations



DIVYANSH SHETTY
DEPUTY SPORTS CAPTAIN



REBECCA CARVALHO
DEPUTY SPORTS CAPTAIN



AMMAR MOHAMMED
DEPUTY ECO CAPTAIN



LEVITA KRIS
DEPUTY ECO CAPTAIN

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD 2020-2021

JUNE 15, 2020



ANULOME KISHORE

SUMMER HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN



SHREYA SUJI

SUMMER HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN



TRISHMAN SINGH BASOOR

AUTUMN HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN



NAMEERA TAHER

AUTUMN HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN

Congratulations



HARISH RAHAVENDAR

WINTER HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN



NAILLYA GANESAN

WINTER HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN



PARTH GOPAL DHAGE

SPRING HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN



GINAN KALLATRA MOHAMMED

SPRING HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD 2020-2021

JUNE 15, 2020



KRISH GUPTA

AUTUMN HOUSE PREFECT



SANDHRA SANDEEP MENON

AUTUMN HOUSE PREFECT



VISHWAJITH LAL

SUMMER HOUSE PREFECT



KHADIJA ZAKRIYA JAMADAR

SUMMER HOUSE PREFECT

Congratulations



SHREVATSYA RASTOGI

WINTER HOUSE PREFECT



AISHWARYA BALAKRISHNAN

WINTER HOUSE PREFECT



RIZWANUL ABIDIN ASIM

SPRING HOUSE PREFECT



SHARVI ARORA

SPRING HOUSE PREFECT

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD 2020-2021

JUNE 15, 2020



KRISHNESH NAIR

SUMMER HOUSE DEPUTY PREFECT



HARPREET KAUR

SUMMER HOUSE DEPUTY PREFECT



JOSHUA RODRICKS

AUTUMN HOUSE DEPUTY PREFECT



ANDRIA VINOD

AUTUMN HOUSE DEPUTY PREFECT

Congratulations



SAMARTH SHETTY

WINTER HOUSE DEPUTY PREFECT



RIDA ZAHID

WINTER HOUSE DEPUTY PREFECT



PRANAY BAPNA

SPRING HOUSE DEPUTY PREFECT



DIYA LAKSHMI

SPRING HOUSE DEPUTY PREFECT

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD

JUNE 15, 2020



LEADING THE SCHOOL COUNCIL FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020 -2021



SYED AAMIR AHMED
PRESIDENT - SCHOOL COUNCIL



PRIYANKA PARIMELAZHAGAN
PRESIDENT - SCHOOL COUNCIL

Congratulations

SCHOOL PREFECTORIAL BOARD

JUNE 15, 2020



Our School Council President's First Speech.....

I am deeply grateful to the school's leadership team for entrusting me with the post of President of the School Council. I would like to sincerely thank my teachers, our Supervisor, Hajarrah ma'am, our Headmistress, Vinita ma'am and our inspiring Principal Teresa ma'am.

However, today is not about one person. Today is about celebrating leadership. But what does it mean to be a leader? To be a leader is to embody hope itself, and to instill confidence in others in the face of the toughest of challenges. It is to take none of the credit, but all of the blame. It is to be the definition of dedication, determination and discipline.

Being a leader isn't an easy job. It takes every bit of effort you can put in, and then some. It is an art that many spend years mastering. We have been fortunate enough to be provided with this golden opportunity to acquire the skills of leadership. Selecting a representative requires trust, and your classmates have chosen to put their trust in you.

Each person has their own strengths and weaknesses, opinions and thoughts, hopes and dreams; and as leaders, we must be aware of their strengths, voice their opinions and help them reach their goals the best we can. Even in these testing times, we must remain headstrong and optimistic. Because like viruses, optimism can be contagious, and a little positivity can make all the difference.

So to all my fellow members of the School Council, I implore you all to live up to what it means to be a good leader. After all, a goal without a plan is just a wish, and any plan executed under the right leadership, is a good one. Thank you.

Our School Council President's First Speech.....

I am Priyanka Parimelazhagan, President of the School Council for the year 2020- 2021.

As I stand here and recall my journey over the 8 years I've spent in GMS, I can say it has been an extremely enriching one which has molded me into the person I am today. I vividly remember, on the 14th of May 2015, I was invested with my first badge, a House Prefect. I watched with awe as the, then Head Boy and Head Girl led us, the contingent. A sense of utmost pride and honour on their faces.

2 years later, the highly unexpected happened. I had been announced as the Sports Captain. But this proved to be a great learning experience for me, a 9th grader, to be working with peers in 11th grade, my seniors. Moreover, I found it a platform to express my concerns, motivate others to sign up for activities, and encourage them to give their best shot at it.

Yet again, today, I have been conferred with a great sense of responsibility and I hope to lead our school to soaring heights and bring out the best in my schoolmates.

It is with extreme gratitude, I thank the Senior Leadership Team for investing me with this and I will ensure to fulfill my duties with utmost sincerity. I would also like to thank my parents and teachers for instilling in me, abilities which have helped reach this goal.

I take pleasure in congratulating every other student leader who has been invested today. Although the best reward for hard work is that personal sense of achievement, it is always encouraging to have your successes publicly acknowledged.

In the light of the current COVID-19 situation, I can't promise you we will have the easiest journey, but I can promise you that whatever the challenge may be, we will face it together and I will always lend an ear to you. But we must always remember not to let any challenges, get the better of us.

Everyone is unique in their own way, and each experience is different. Together as a team, we must strive to apply our strengths to the work. Moreover, working as a team should improve the sense of responsibility and must remind us that our individual performances affects that of the group.

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-21

JUNE 15, 2020



SREYASH RAVINUTHALA

VICE - PRESIDENT - SCHOOL COUNCIL



HANNA ABDUL MAJEED

VICE - PRESIDENT - SCHOOL COUNCIL



FAHAD SHABBIR PATEL

5B



JOSEPH AUGUSTINE

5B1



KRISHNAMIKA KRISHNAKUMAR
NAIR

5G1

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-21

JUNE 15, 2020



AMEYAA MANIKANDAN KUTTATH

5G1



ETHAN MANOJ

6B



ISHAAN ABBIREDDI

6B1



MUHAMMAD FAAIZ ANWAR

6B2



ISHAAN VIJAYKUMAR MALI

6B3



RAYNA MISHRA

6G

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-21

JUNE 15, 2020



PARVATHY PRADEEP MENON

6G1



AKANSHA SUMITH

6G2



SHANE JOE SOJY UKKEN

7B



ADVAITH ANOOP KUMAR

7B1



AYDIN ASIF KALLANGODAN

7B2



MOHAMMAD ABDUL RAZZAQ SIDDIQUE

7B3

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-21

JUNE 15, 2020



MARIYA ALI RAZA

7G



MAHEK AZIM HAJWANE

7G1



RAIMA KEWLANI

7G2



ALTHAMISH PULIKAIVALIYAVEEDU THANHEER

8B



SIVA BALAN SARAVANAKUMAR

8B1



ISAAC PAUL

8B2

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-21

JUNE 15, 2020



APARAGITHA RAMA MURALI

8G



AARYA ABHIJIT SANKPAL

8G1



DISHITA ASHOK BANSAL

8G2



THANMAY PREBEEESH

9B



ABHIRAM SARITH BHARATH

9B1



GOVIND RAJESHKUMAR PILLAI

9B2

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-21

JUNE 15, 2020



RIDA KADAVANTHODE SHANI

9G



MEGHA SAJITH MAYA

9G1



HIMANISH SUBHASH CHOTHE

10B



JEREMIAH ABRAHAM BINOI

10B1



ALHENA ASIF KALLANGODAN

10G



IFRAH REHMAN

10G1

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-21

JUNE 15, 2020



STEPHERT OLIVER PINTO

11B1



DENVER EARL DSA

11B2



ANN JOE THARAKAN

11G1



ZUHA ANJUM SHAIK

11G2



BHAVISH KUMAR

12B1

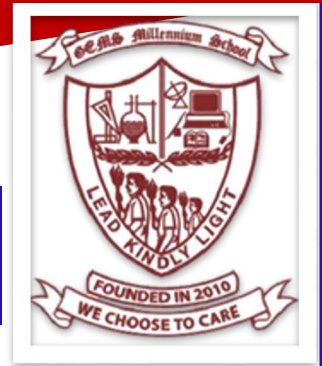


AMSHITH SANATH BHARATHAN

12B2

STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020-21

JUNE 15, 2020



ANNABEL MARIAM BENNY

12G1



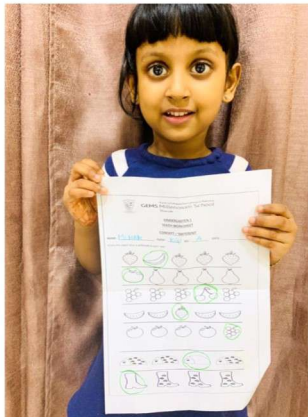
CHRISTINE REA BINU

12G2

Congratulations

RLP ACTIVITIES - KINDERGARTEN1

JUNE 15, 2020

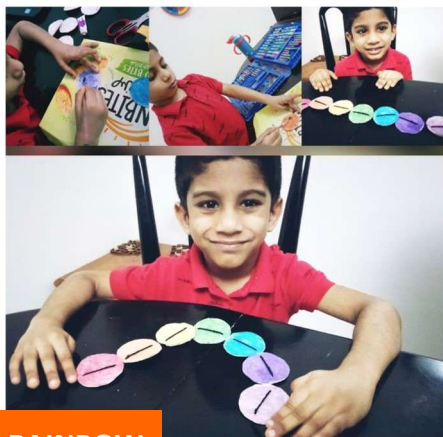


MATH :
SAME AND
DIFFERENT



NUMBER 2

LETTER ART
-SNAIL



RAINBOW
NECKLACE



P.E.



BLENDING SOUNDS



RLP ACTIVITIES - KINDERGARTEN 2

JUNE 15, 2020



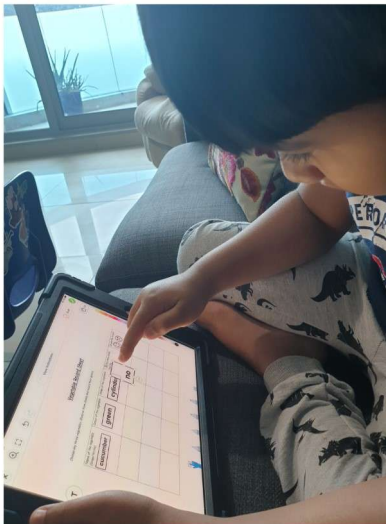
EVS: FRUIT SALAD



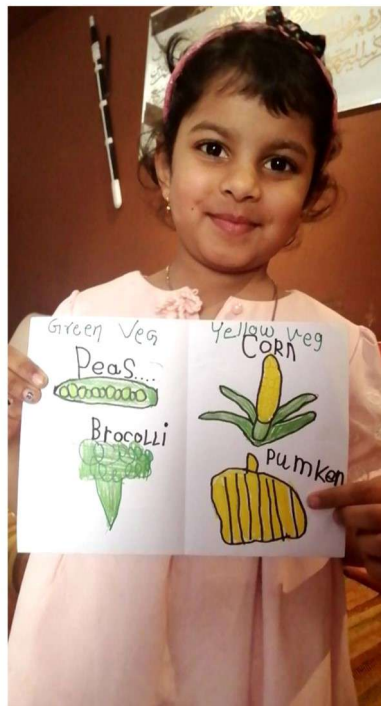
KINDNESS : HELPING



THE SETTING OF A STORY



EVS -TOPIC FRUITS& VEGETABLES



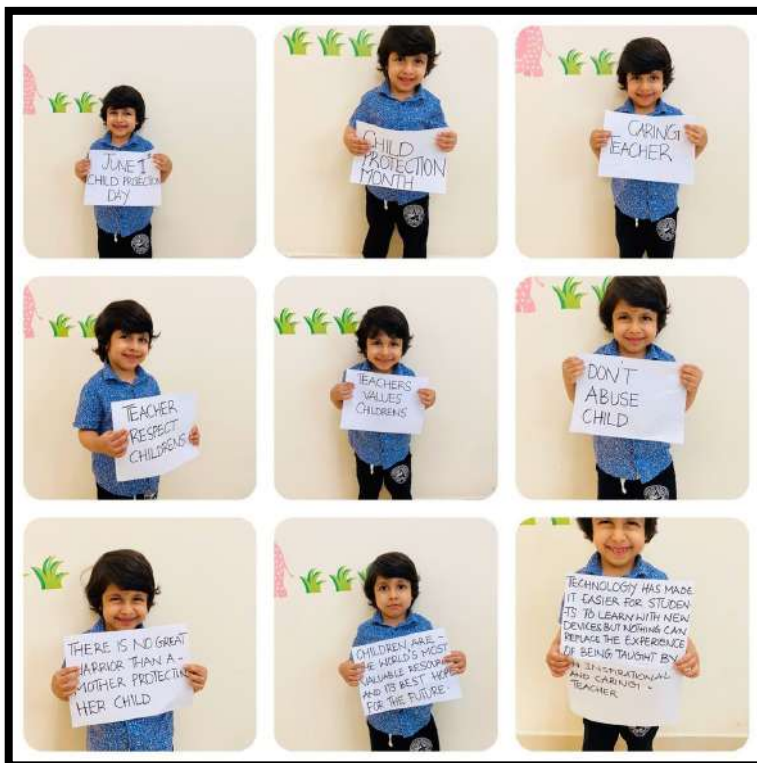
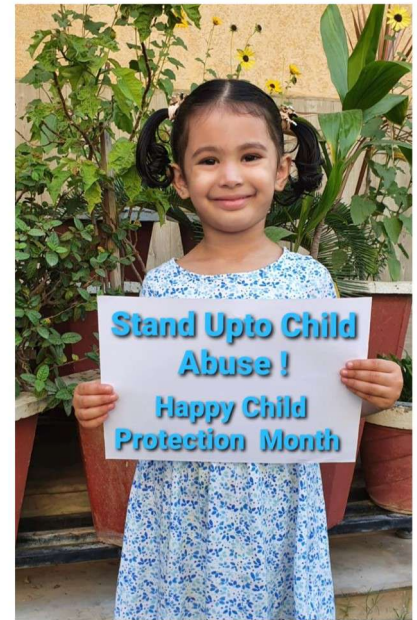
FREEFLOW ACTIVITY

CHILD PROTECTION DAY—KG

JUNE 15, 2020



CHILD PROTECTION DAY -LIVE LESSON



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY—KG1

JUNE 15, 2020

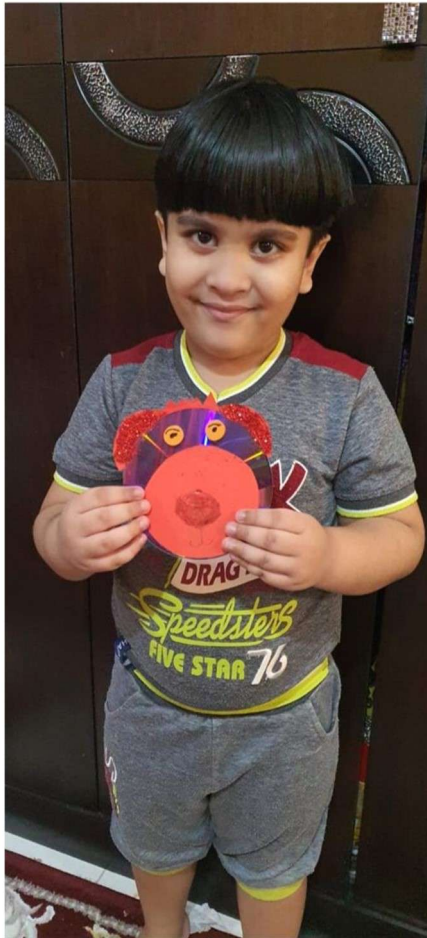


BEST OUT OF WASTE -ACTIVITY



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY—KG2

JUNE 15, 2020



Our Environment

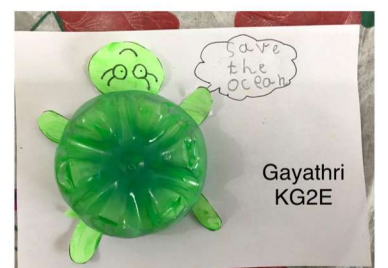


Activities-Best out of waste

BEST OUT OF WASTE -ACTIVITY



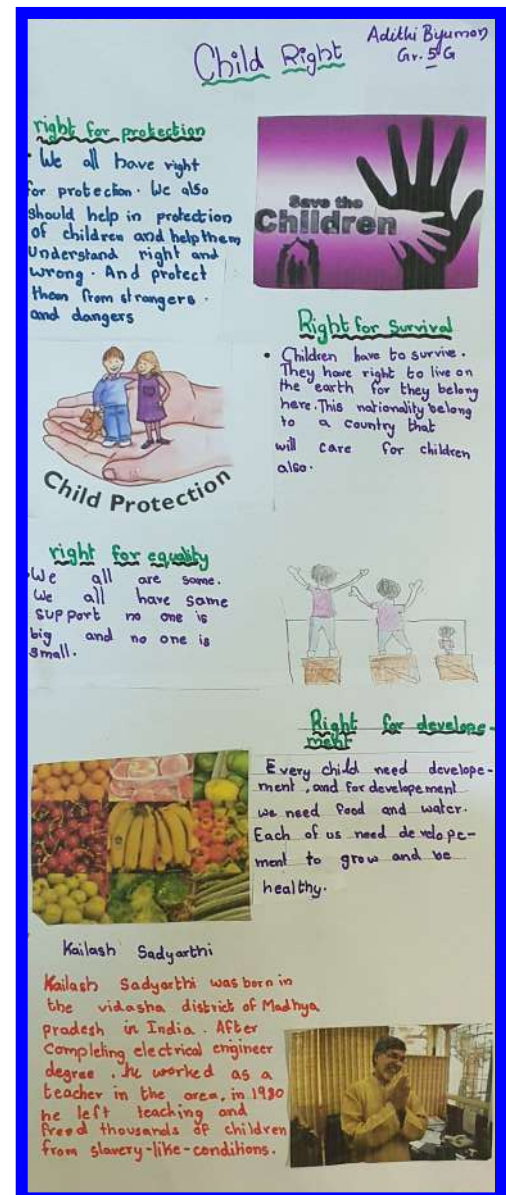
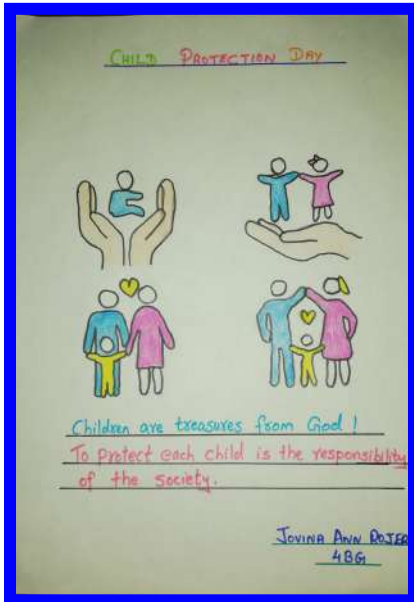
Environment - Butterfly (Pen Holder)



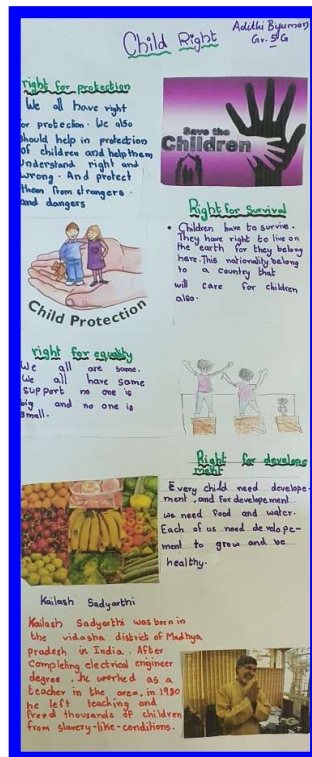
Gayathri KG2E

CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

PRIMARY SCHOOL

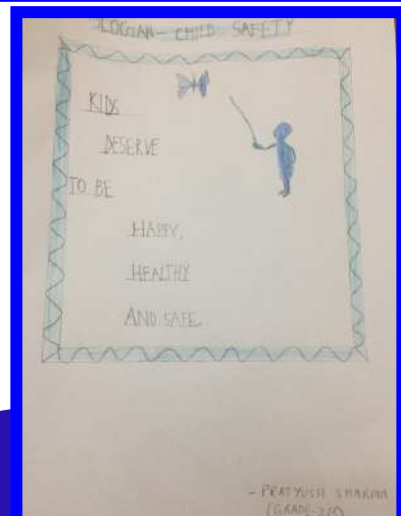


Save
The
Children:
Let
Them Play,
Not Work



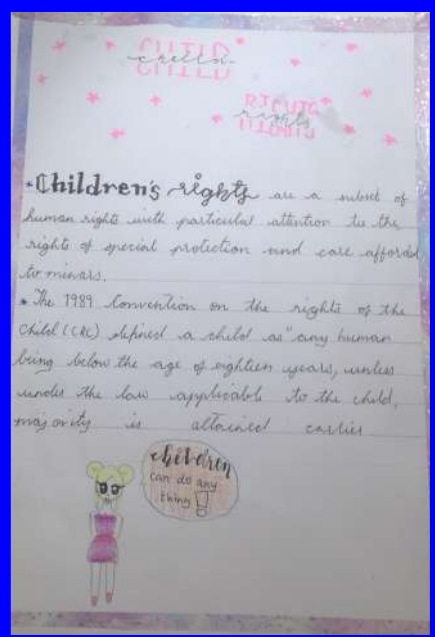
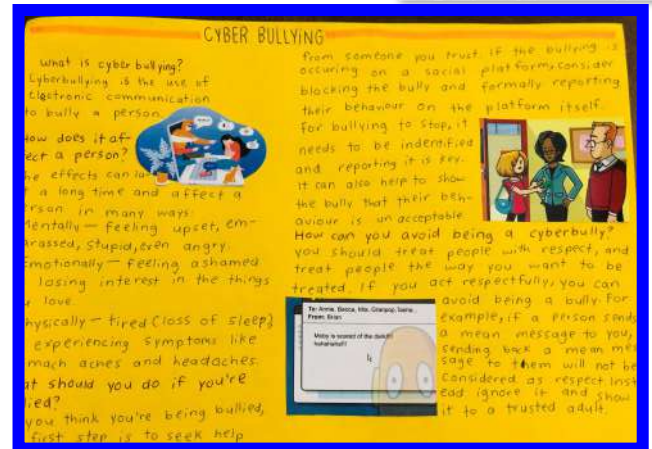
1. RIGHTS OF SURVIVAL
2. EDUCATION is the most powerful thing
3. RIGHTS TO PROTECTION
4. RIGHTS OF PARTICIPATE
5. RIGHTS OF EQUALITY

Wakhan Bolyatshi is one of the world's most active and influential Avesta Localists. He was born in the Vidisha district of Madhya Pradesh in India. In 1960, he left teaching and founded the organization Bachpan Bachao Andolan, which has freed thousands of children from slave-like conditions.



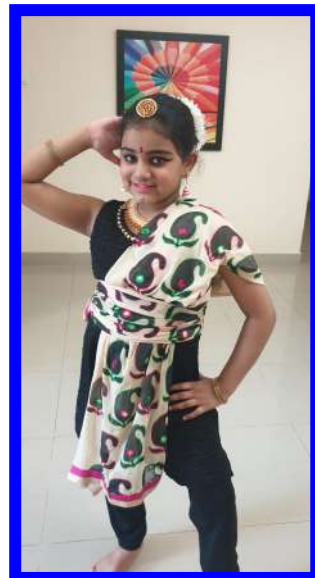
CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

PRIMARY SCHOOL



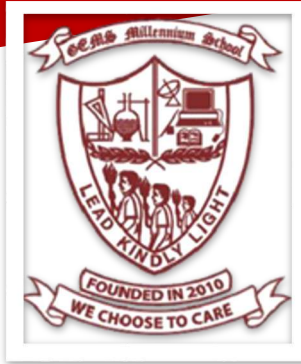
MALAKAT AT'TABEER

JUNE 15, 2020



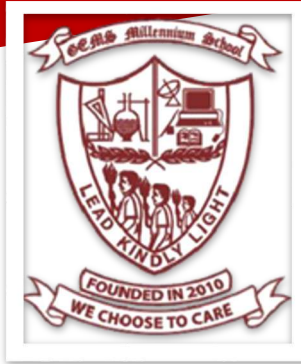
MALAKAT AT'TABEER

JUNE 15, 2020



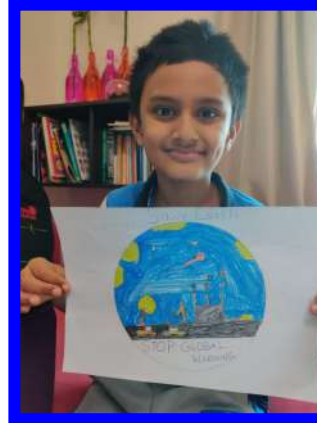
MALAKAT AT'TABEER

JUNE 15, 2020



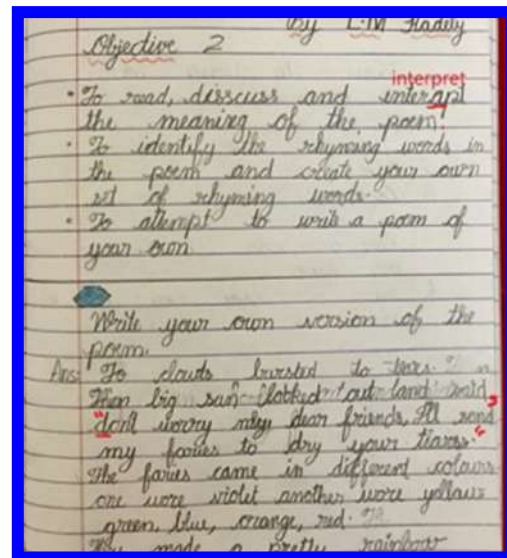
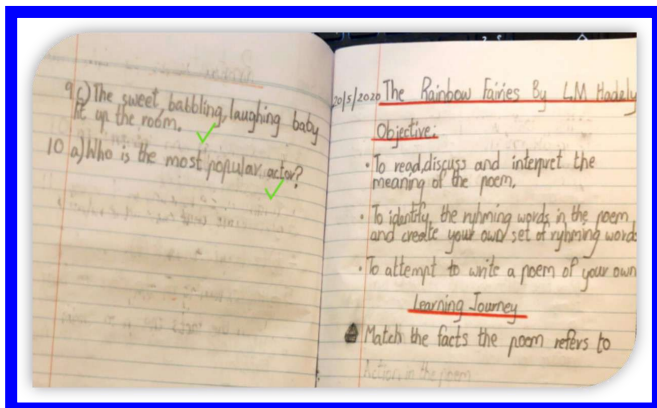
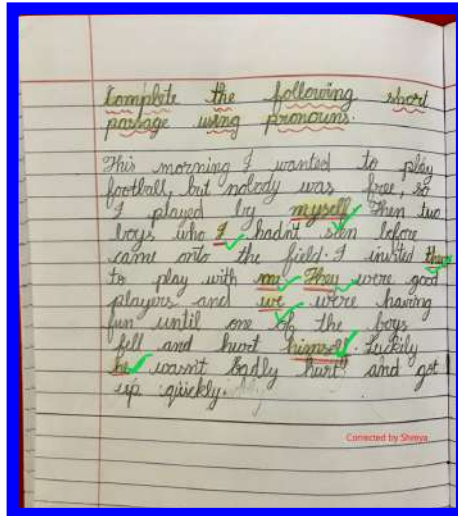
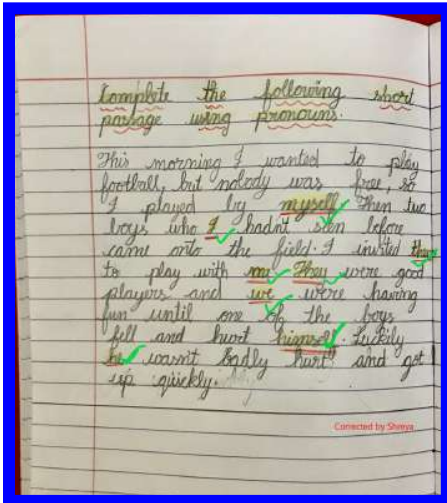
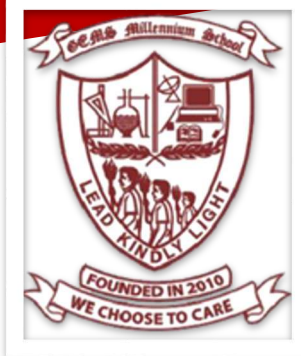
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

JUNE 15, 2020



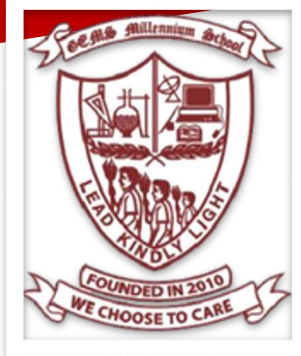
STUDENT WORK

JUNE 15, 2020



STUDENT WORK

JUNE 15, 2020



21/6/2020
CN

Objective 1: Verify the answer as correct or wrong using subtraction or addition.

Task 1: Verify answer by addition.

T O	T O
4	1
8 16	3 7
- 1 9	+ 1 9
3 7	5 6

AFL: Solve and Verify

Th H T O	Th H T O
3 5 8 12	2 1 0 2
- 1 4 7 5	+ 1 4 7 5
2 1 0 7	3 5 8 2

21/6/2020
CN

Objective 2:

- Petiole
- Vein
- Midrib
- Photosynthesis
- Chlorophyll

✂ Which among the following plants-

Hibiscus

i) Wheat grass can be easily uprooted why?

Ans: Hibiscus plant has taproot.

Wheat grass is easily uprooted because it has fibrous root.

Extension Task

Aerial roots - Aerial roots are parts that grow on the above ground parts of a plant. Aerial roots absorb water directly from the air. Aerial roots are adventitious roots eg. Banyan tree, mangroves.

21/6/2020
CN

Extension Task: Name the countries that are part of the Fertile Crescent. Why are these areas called 'hotter land'?

Ans: The fertile crescent is the region in the Middle East which covers the area between the Taurus, Zagros, and Arabian mountains. It is the area where the cradles of civilization were located. The Fertile Crescent is the region in the Middle East which covers the area between the Taurus, Zagros, and Arabian mountains. It is the area where the cradles of civilization were located.

21/6/2020
CN

Learning Journey:

Write paragraph on Eid:

أكتب فقرة عن العيد.

Any: في يوم العيد أنا سعيد جداً. ألبس اللبس الجديد. أأخذ الهدايا من أبي. أأشرب الحلوى وأأكل الكعك. أأشرب اللبن. أأشرب العصير. أأشرب الماء.

Describe the pictures:

عين عن الصورة بجملة.

1. نأخذ الهدايا من أبي.

2. نأشرب اللبن في العيد.

3. أأخذ العيدية من أبي.

21/6/2020
CN

Task 1: Draw a clock face showing the time.

الساعة الثالثة

الساعة الخامسة

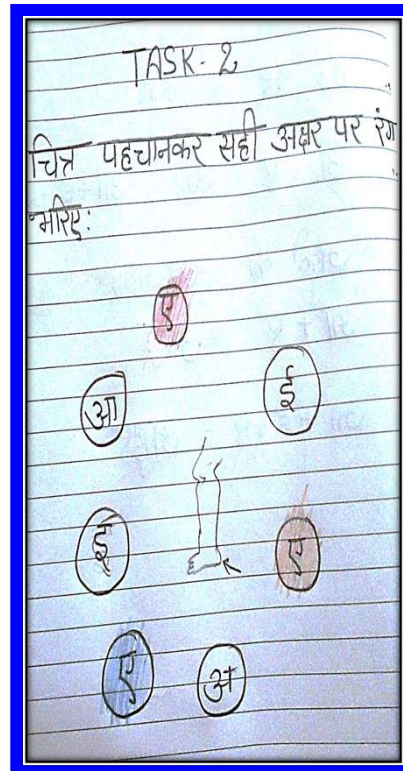
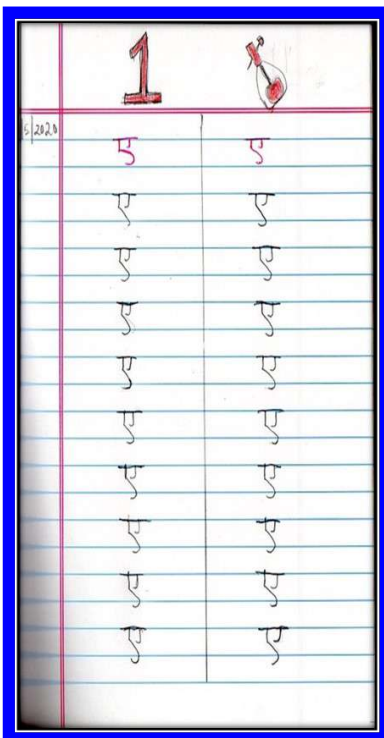
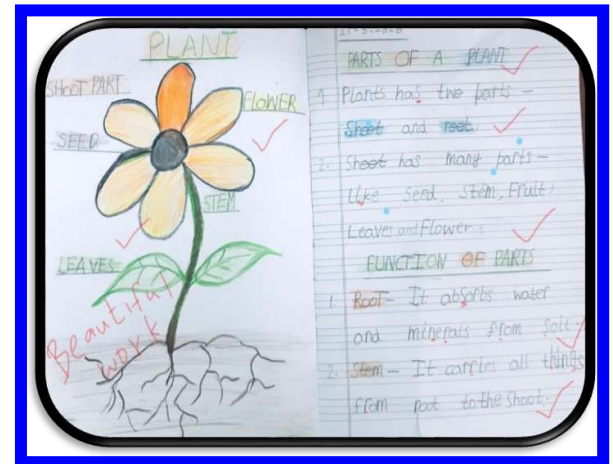
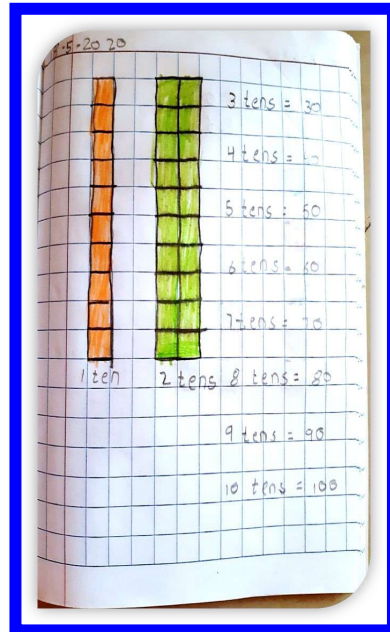
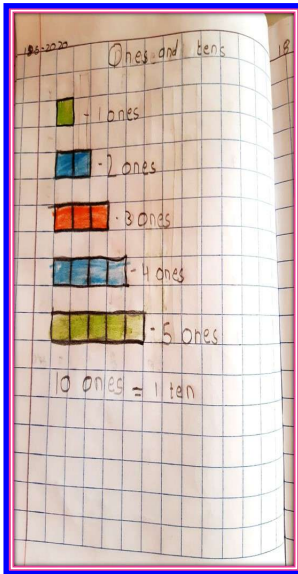
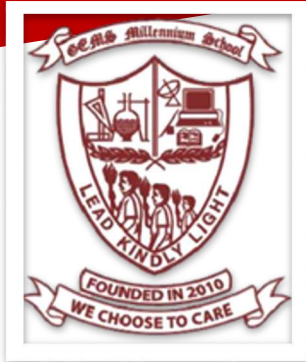
21/6/2020
CN

Task 1: Write a paragraph using action words.

Superb work Ayanshi! You have understood the concept of action words (Verb) well. You are able to list and frame sentences using action words. Keep up the good work and now your next task is to create a paragraph using 10 or more action word.

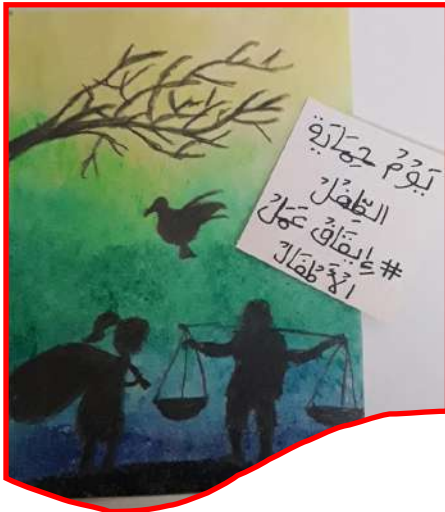
STUDENT WORK

JUNE 15, 2020



RLP ACTIVITIES - MIDDLE SCHOOL

JUNE 15, 2020



ARABIC WORK



Alauddin Khalji
1266-1316

Alauddin Khalji was born as Ali Gurshasp, was the most powerful emperor of the Khalji dynasty

Alauddin conquered the kingdoms of Gujarat, Ranthambore, Chittor, Malwa, Siwana, and Jalore.

Alauddin instituted a number of significant administrative changes, related to revenues, price controls, and society.

Alauddin Khalji died on January 1316. His body was buried in the Qutab Minar



SST

From Trade to Territory

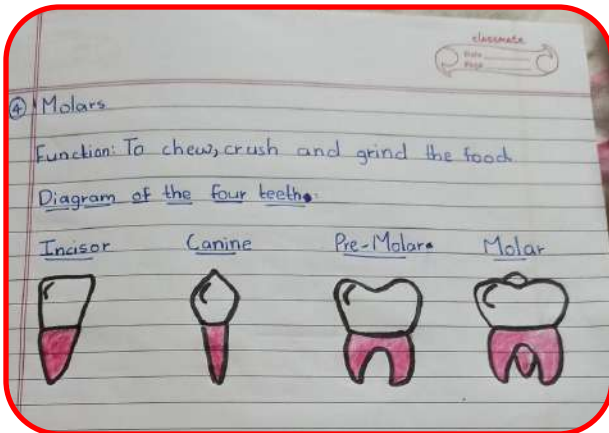
- Ships and clothing attracted European trading companies in India.
- What were the areas of conflict between the Bengal Nawabs and the East India Company?
- Explain the system of "subsidiary alliances".
- In what ways was the administration of the company different from that of Indian rulers?
- Describe the changes that occurred in the composition of the Company's army.

Prayers

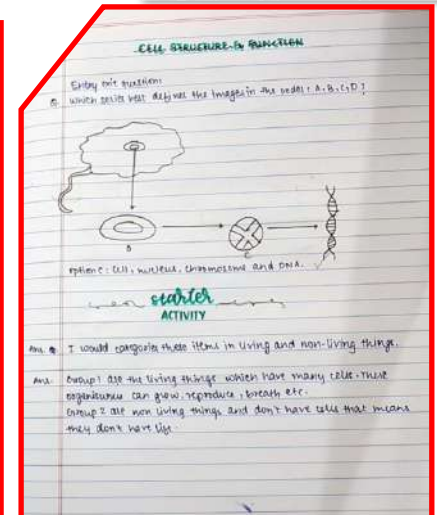
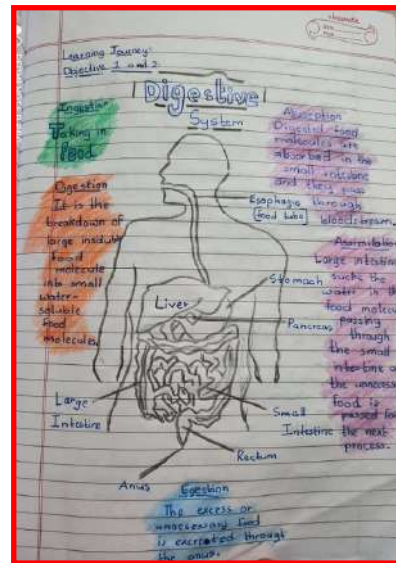
- The conflict between the Bengal Nawabs and the East India Company, concessions and demanded large tribute, the company's right to trade. The Nawabs also denied the company any right to mint coins, and stopped it from extending its fortifications.
- Subsidiary Alliance system developed by the East India Company and Indian ruler entering into a subsidiary Alliance with the British had to accept British

RLP ACTIVITIES - MIDDLE SCHOOL

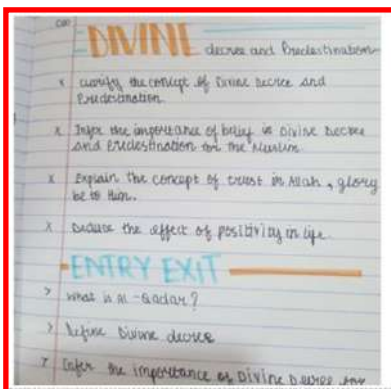
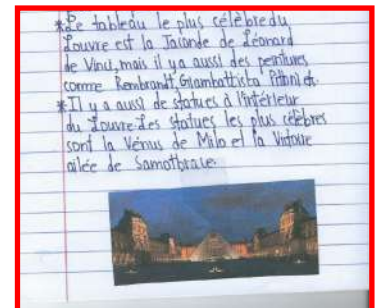
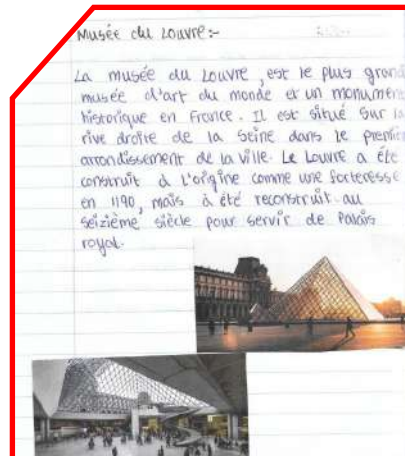
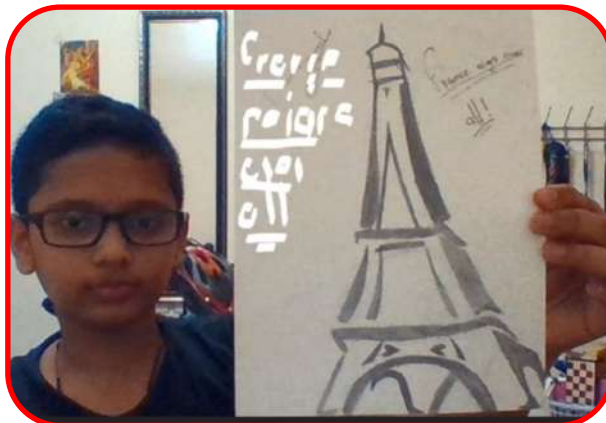
JUNE 15, 2020



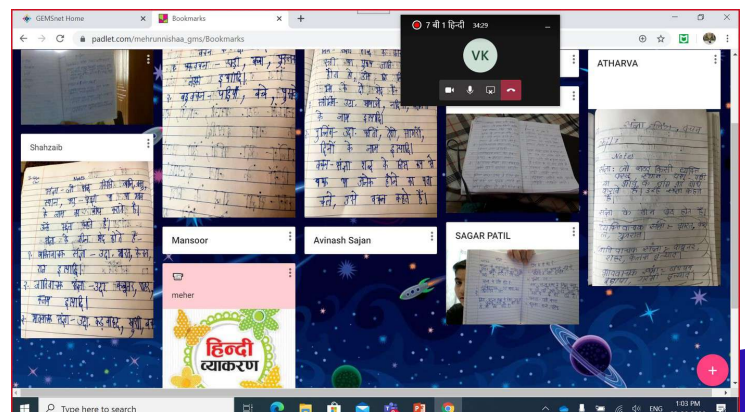
SCIENCE



FRENCH



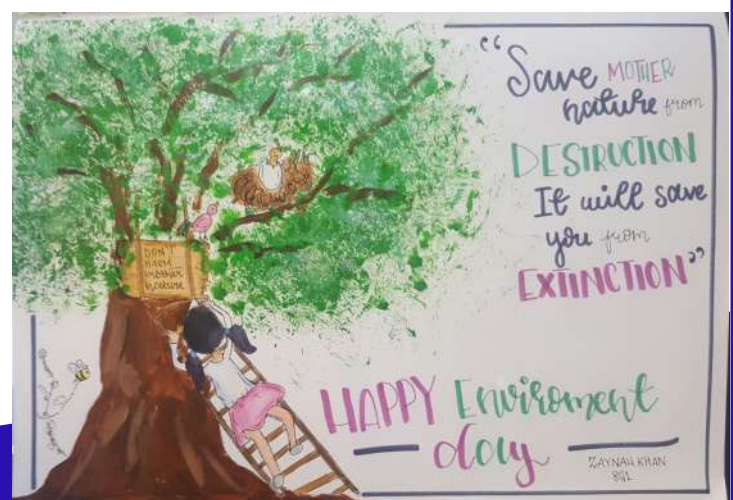
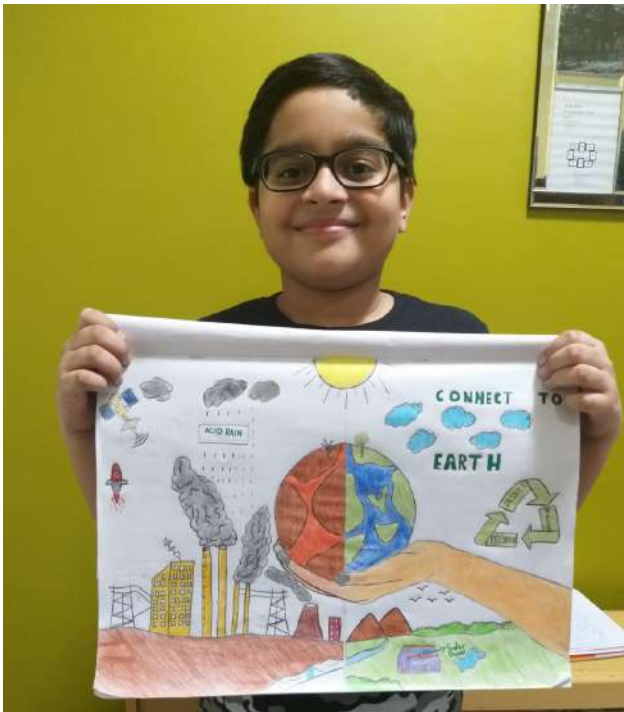
HINDI



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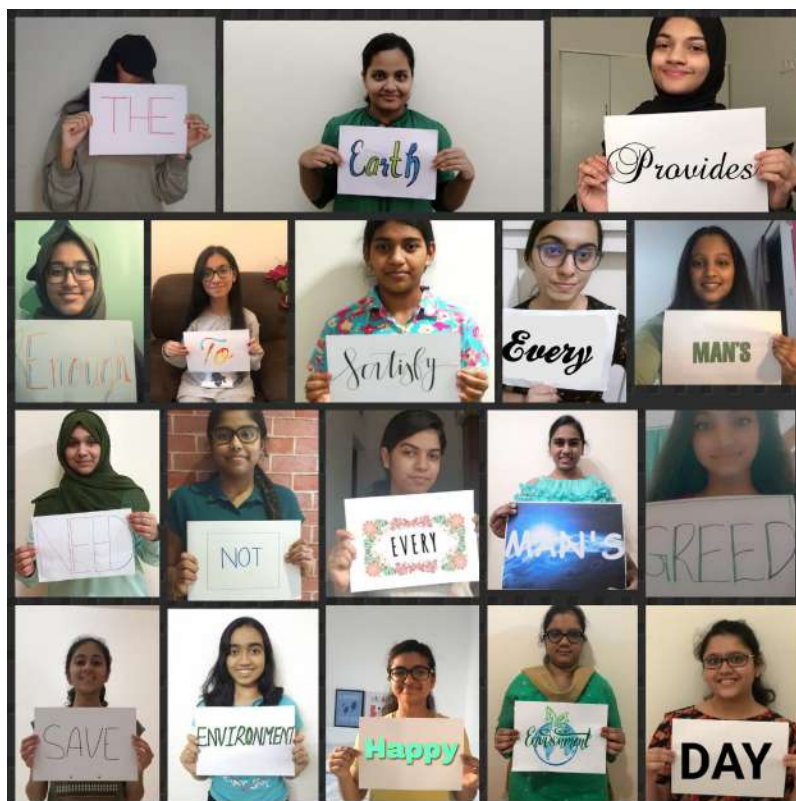
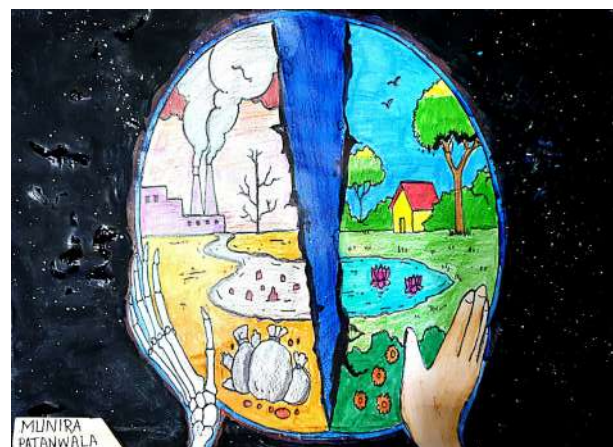
RLP ACTIVITIES - MIDDLE SCHOOL

JUNE 15, 2020



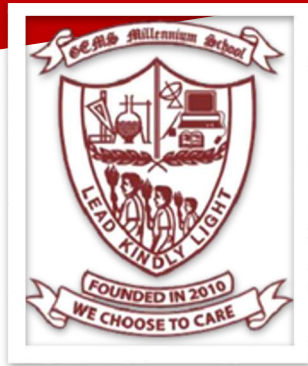
RLP ACTIVITIES - SENIOR SCHOOL

JUNE 15, 2020



MANAGING ONLINE SAFETY AT HOME

JUNE 15, 2020



TIPS FOR PARENTS

BY OUR SCHOOL COUNSELLOR - MS. SHERIN JAYAKUMAR

We all have been sheltering in our homes for a long time now. At GMS, we are mindful to keep our children safe online, as they take to their laptops and iPads to stay connected, learn and entertain themselves. They are in an increased risk of online harassment, sexual abuse and exploitations.

The COVID pandemic has created a perfect storm for online predators to lure children who are lonely, confused and maybe looking for validation.

Here are a few easy tips to keep them safe:

1. **Open Communication:**

Let us start by saying this, the most important safety measure is to have an open communication with your children at home. Talk to them about what is going on in their lives online and who they are engaging with, work with your children to establish rules on how long they can be online and encourage daily activities that do not require screens. Get them up and moving!

2. **Use Protective Tools:**

Check that your child's device is running the latest software, antivirus programs and that privacy settings are in place. Keep the Webcams covered when not in use! For younger children, set up parental controls and use tools like SAFE SEARCH on Google.

3. **Watch what they share:**

Help children to learn to keep personal information private, especially from strangers. Children should never provide a photo or their full name to use learning resources online.

4. **Look out for warning signs:**

Watch out for signs of distress in the child such as becoming withdrawn, upset, secretive or depressed. It might be connected with their increased online activity.

5. **Report Cyber Bullying:**

Be familiar with the School Safeguarding and Bullying policies, also have the contact numbers of support helplines and hotlines handy to report cyber bullying or inappropriate content.

So, remain alert, keep the open communication going and do let us know if you need any help!