



THE GAUDIUM  
**PRISM**

**IB DP Edition**

August 2019

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## Shanmugam Paramasivan Principal IBDP

Greetings Gaudium Families!

It is hard to believe that time flew by so quickly and we are into the midterm of this first academic year of Diploma Program at The Gaudium School already. As we have varied summative assessment tasks to report the achievement level, in November, we have started with the assignment, followed by the unit test, project and the session ending examination. The complete DP academic calendar 2019-21 timeline, scheduling both the school-based summative assessment tasks and the formal IB assessment tasks will be shared in the school ERP and you will receive information on the access.

As educators, one of our primary goals is to help students develop independent thinking. To develop the desire and ability to think for oneself, first and foremost they should question the information and ask themselves whether the information makes sense. While dependent thinkers uncritically accept whatever taught or given to them, independent thinkers feel the need to make sense of the world with the information, based on their observations and experiences. I hope that the teachers facilitate our students to acquire the independent thinking tool whether in the classroom engagement through inquiry or through assigning tasks that require exploring unfamiliar situations. Being able to think independently gives the scope for enhancing their wealth of potential knowledge with a greater level of self-awareness.

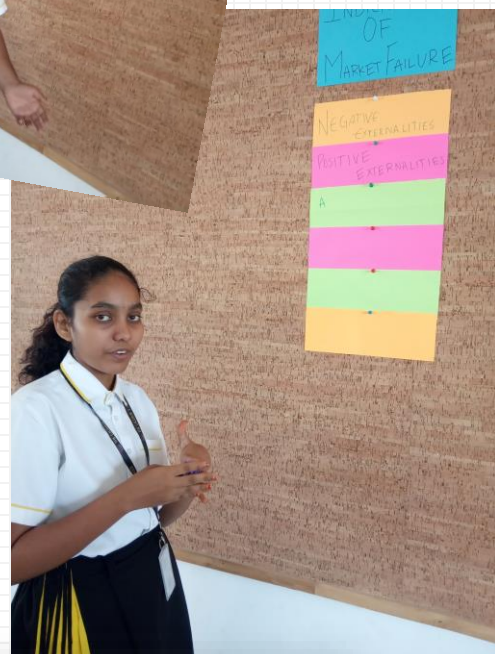
The coming months in this term will be super exciting for the students as they will get to engage in various social and cultural celebrations. I look forward to joining our students and their families on the upcoming events that foster our Gaudium spirit.

## Economics – Chart Presentation

As a revision activity, the HL **Economics** students gave a chart presentation on the topics they have learned so far: '*Objectives of Economics as a Subject*'; '*Demand and Supply*'; '*Elasticity of Demand and Supply*'; and '*Market Failure*'. They were quizzed on these basic topics of Economics in the class. The students presented their understanding about these topics in the form of flowcharts and by giving a brief explanation of the same thereafter. The objectives of the whole activity were to promote the geckos' presentation skills through a variety of speaking techniques that would enable them to communicate with the audience and to negotiate ideas and knowledge with their peers and teachers. The students were extremely participative, responsive and creative throughout this activity. They spoke with confidence and were open to other participants' questions. The activity not only brushed up the topics but also bettered the geckos' in-depth understanding about the concepts/topics.



Using flowcharts to answer the question



Let us put up the stirps to answer



Writing scripts needs planning!

## English – Language and Identity – Role Play

The role-play, in which learners act out roles in case scenarios, are widely used across a broad range of disciplines as an effective learning tool. The Diploma Programme students were assigned a task to prepare a script on the theme Language, Culture and Identity and do a role play on the theme. This task was given after a detailed discussion on what constitutes as an identity and the role of language and culture in shaping the identity of an individual. The geckos were asked to listen to rap songs of Eminem and Vanilla Ice and comment upon the lyrics of the songs to establish a connection between the language and the identity of the singers.

The objective of role play was to help the geckos understand what the language of a text tells us about its authors identity and cultural context. In addition to this, the geckos were divided into two groups and were asked to prepare a talk show script. The situation given was – ‘What if Vanilla Ice and Eminem would converse on a talk show?’ The script should reflect upon the importance of their lyrics to the rap world and racial issues. In this given activity, the geckos were required to refer back to the lyrics of the songs frequently and in detail.

The role-play presentation by the student was very interesting and effective. In the whole process, they showcased their knowledge and understanding of the given text and context. They approached the role sportingly, provided ideas they developed through the research and developed an appreciation for multiple perspectives.

## Computers

Students were introduced to various terms of networking. The networking devices were shown to make them understand about their usages and the way they work. Also various topologies architecture were drawn and analysed that helped the geckos to understand the pattern in which computers are connected in network. Various types of network was compared and contrasted, and the geckos researched and explored to store in a table. Security is one of the important features in network security so various encryption and decryption methods were solved in the classroom to understand about network security concept.

To connect devices with each other, various transmission media are required. So, the geckos collected pictures, functionality, price, safety and speed of each medium and an analysis on its various features was done. In this concept, they learned about communication skills that will help them to know how communication between devices takes place and how to encounter the problems at the time of networking device failure. Also they learned about various protocols that are required to enhance and maintain the communication skills in networking.

## Biology

What we learn with pleasure, we never forget." - Alfred Mercier

Our geckos at The Gaudium are frequently exposed to fun sessions in the classroom that include learning through interactive-activities. We believe that to achieve success in life, one should hone organizational and critical thinking skills; and we imbibed these skills through our specially designed puzzle solving activities.

In one of our fun classroom activities, to encourage and incite interest towards different aspects of Biology, the geckos were provided with a jigsaw puzzle with the theme, Mitosis. Different stages of Mitosis were jumbled and students were asked to logically rearrange and label them. The excited and immensely involved students successfully organized the puzzle canvas accurately. Through this fun activity that was organized with a focussed study group of geckos, we were able to enhance their analytical and problem-solving skills while simultaneously being able to expose them to identifying different stages of mitosis. This puzzle was a useful aid for preparing the students for answering IB style questions about cell division.

## Physics

### Activity 1

**Graphical analysis** plays an important role in data analysis. The students had been taught about displacement, velocity and acceleration in lower grades. The displacement-time graph was discussed in the class. For the above activity, the students were divided into groups and each group was given a velocity-time/acceleration-time graph for analysis.

Each group was expected to lead the discussion on any one type of graph. They led the discussion on how to calculate 'slope' (with the name of the slope) and 'quantity' (with the name of the quantity) that depict the area inside the graph. In this activity, the geckos developed communication, research and social skills.

## Physics

### Activity2

The students were asked to find out the density of a given with some given apparatus. They were first expected to design the experiment to meet the objective of the experiment. The students found out mass with the spring balance and then found out mass with the digital balance. They then found out the volume of the given spherical bob using ruler and string and compared it with more precise instruments. The students justified the difference in the experimental data by listing out the types of errors that they committed while collecting the data. Finally, they learnt plotting graph with uncertainty in Excel sheet. They have shown improvement in collaboration and calculation skills where at each stage, they discussed among themselves and proceeded to get the final result.



Teaching peers – learning from peers

Graphical analysis was used to calculate density: three cylinders were measured (volume and mass) through different methods. There were many systematic errors when measuring through analog scales, which posed as a challenge. The graphs were made to calculate the density with uncertainty.



**Shreya Kappagantula**

Graphical analysis, the activity in Physics had offered us to learn how to analyze the graphical analysis of velocity. I had a little bit of a challenge initially, but as the activity went on, all fell in place; all it required was some attentiveness, and some basic math skills.



**Ruchit Dwara**



# Learning Pulses - DP Events – Debate

## The verbal combat that invested IBDP geckos with skills

Debate is rather a sport as it demands team spirit and teamwork of debaters. Out of the numerous benefits, debaters obtain preparing and participating in debate, the key ones are skills of presentation, researching, organization and critical thinking. Debate also provides debaters with a sense of pride while defining and putting forward their arguments persuasively and logically with evidence. All these benefits the IBDP geckos of the Gaudium gained in the debate contest that was held as a part of the TOK curriculum, on the 14th of August.

The debate was based on a real-life situation: the suicide of V G Siddhartha, the CEO of the Café Coffee Day chain and the topic was "To what extent ethical considerations play a role in the success of business". The geckos were given a day to research on the topic. On the day of the contest, the class was divided into two teams at the helm of two capable team captains. One team, the affirmative team that spoke for – the necessity of ethical considerations, and the other against it – the constraints of ethical considerations in business. The debaters of both teams presented the topic through a pre-decided, time-bound structure i.e., introduction, the main argument, the alternative viewpoint, conclusion and rebuttal.

The objective of the debate was to help the geckos share their perspectives on the global happenings on a debate forum, giving focus on the presentation, speaking, listening and research skills. The students came up with commendable research which they reflected in their citations and examples.

The judges and the guests were thoroughly engaged throughout the verbal war and they showered praise on the geckos' effective presentation skills, professional attitude and formal demeanour. Their arguments were well evaluated and could maintain the focus and the connection to the given real-life scenario.

In the end, the rebuttal round was followed with three questions from each team which were extremely well-formed and equally well defended by both the teams. It was a logically fought and articulated verbal fight that the team that spoke against the topic won, though by a close margin.



Ready, set, let's debate

# Learning Pulses

## DP Events – TOK Debate

On parallel lines,  
to present  
opposite views...



With posture right...  
This is my point



Do you think we  
have a counter  
argument?

# Learning Pulses

## DP Events – A Session on Approaches to Learning

**“Approaches to teaching and learning** are deliberate strategies, skills and attitudes that permeate the **teaching and learning** environment. These **approaches** and tools, intrinsically linked with the IB learner profile attributes, enhance student **learning** and assist student preparation for **DP** assessment and beyond” - IBO.org

A session for DP students on ‘Approaches to Learning’ was conducted in August by IB DP Principal, Mr. Shanmugam Paramasivan. The objective of the session was to equip students with learning tools so that they can become independent learners. The session covered 3 skills – Thinking skills, self management skills and social skills.

Students were actively engaged in the session. They discussed and shared their ideas on how thinking skills are divided into three sub-categories i.e., critical thinking, creative thinking and independent thinking. They shared the scope of the skills, how this will help them to be independent learners, help them to generate critical ideas to the task and help them approach the task in a new way. The discussion on self-management skills was interesting as the geckos came up with how task management, time management and organization skills will play a role in their life. They discussed the importance of prioritizing, balancing and accountability. For social skills, the role of environment, perspective, relationship, collaboration was shared by the geckos. They discussed how respecting each other’s views helps in building a positive relationship. The geckos actively participated in the discussion and presented their views without any inhibition. These skills help the geckos not only in academics but in building unique strength and ability to accomplish their goals.



Principled  
students



When our principal talks, we are  
enlightened!

## College counselling – Goal Setting – Stage 2

College counselling for students is an integral part of IBDP. These counselling sessions which are being provided at the campus are highly structured and meticulously planned. They will enable and help students to set their goals for higher studies and accordingly, identify universities that match their interest and ambition. For students, working hard to get their required profile that facilitates gaining admission to the chosen university becomes a well-focussed hardship due to the availability of these college counselling sessions at the campus.

In the college counselling sessions at The Gaudium, the geckos, in the first stage, identified their dream universities aligned with the courses of their choice. In the second stage, students were asked to identify their dream universities of three levels.

The college counselling team now will be holding one-on-one interaction with the geckos with regards to their choice of university for understanding the suitability of it, considering factors such as fees, the scholarship, whether the student can connect with the ethos of the college, the location, and the viability of the higher education programmes, etc.

We need to prepare the geckos to build their profile to meet the admission requirements. The parents also will be invited for a one-on – one discussion and for gathering their views and consent. Based on that, the students will be further guided.

In the next communication, we will share the details of the role of SAT and ACT performance score, the importance of predicted IB grades and the target IB grades. We would be building the student profile with required evidence aligning it with DP core components –TOK, EE and CAS.

In our student counselling agenda for the coming months, of course, the timeline for the admission process, the importance of purposeful writing skill, highlighting their attributes which can fetch a college admission, are listed.

Thus, the college counselling team at The Gaudium is surely to give the geckos a handful of fruitful preparatory guidance, help and advice.



Gadin Sri Sai Kondeti

Since my aim is to become a successful entrepreneur, I had to look for universities that offer business administration or business management courses. We were guided by our coordinator and the principal to find the best universities. This was one of our main career counselling sessions, which helped us clarifying all our career related queries.

# Fresh Thoughts

## Student perspective on global/nation/local happenings

### **Nuclear Tensions in South-East Asia**

Perhaps one of the more controversial and critical topics at the moment is, nuclear tensions among countries. Nuclear tensions now have been around since the end of World War II. They directly impact our country; in addition, they could potentially threaten our national security, forcing us to mend our foreign policies and strategies. Not to mention, with the recent tensions with Pakistan and China, who also possess nuclear power, only made the matter more critical and sensitive.

India had pledged, “no first use of nuclear weapons” for decades now and has also upheld it till now. But, recent tensions have obliged the country to review and rethink of this very pledge. Now, India’s Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh, has reaffirmed the pledge and also expressed his doubt – whether the country can remain obliged to the commitment/pledge. He also states, “What happens in the future depends on the circumstances”. This means one can safely predict that the commitment may not stay around for too long.

The country has been highly criticised by the other countries when the Government of India had conducted nuclear tests in Pokhran, located in Rajasthan. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons or NPT has been signed by 191 countries in Geneva, Switzerland in the year of 1968. The main objectives of this treaty was to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, use nuclear power for energy and other peaceful purposes and to achieve a goal of complete nuclear disarmament. This treaty was not signed by India as they were aware that the neighbouring countries Pakistan and China possess these nuclear weapons. The country is willing to sign if the countries, Pakistan and China are willing to sign the treaty to completely disarm or use their nuclear weapons only in consultation with the UN.

In addition, Rajnath Singh also states that this is a serious matter – “India attaining the status of a responsible nuclear nation is a matter of national pride”. One could also deduce that the taint in the pledge is equivalent to taint the national pride of the country. Pakistan also has stressed privately in the last week that they never believed India anyway – but his rhetoric shift, combined with growing Indian capabilities, will heighten Pakistani interest in making more nuclear weapons, dispersing them in a crisis, and using those weapons before India can destroy them on the ground.

On a personal note - everyone knows the decades long rivalry. India, who first acquired the nuclear status in the late 1900’s in Pokhran, was justified – since we were threatened. Due to Pakistan and China, both had acquired nuclear power at that time. In order to defend the nation’s security and maintain peace; India had to get their hands-on nuclear arsenal.

Some countries claim it was an incorrect choice, though we strongly believe it was required for dire cases and scenarios. Instilling the fear in the neighbouring or all rival countries was extremely necessary due to obvious reasons – with one just being avoiding any conflicts that gave the opposing country an upper-hand.

Had we not acquired nuclear status at that time, there was no guarantee that we may in the future or not. With extremely critical tensions, and an era of chasing nuclear power, it was a great time to carry out this task. And so, we did, and are still a very responsible country one which has never threatened to misuse this power at any point of time while upholding the pledge taken decades ago. Now, reconsidering this very pledge, must have a strong reason behind it; after all we have to make our nation trustworthy enough to keep this status!

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-49354185>

**Ruchit Dwara**  
Grade 11 IBDP

### Assessment Objectives

Every subject group in IB Diploma Programme has been modelled according to the nature of the programme with the content framework and key concepts that are linked with core component and international mindedness.

A professional development session on DP Assessment was conducted for the DP teachers by IB DP Principal, Mr. Shanmugam Paramasivan, on 8 August 2019. The session helped teachers to understand how the subject assessment objectives should be kept in focus while having the teaching learning experiences in every unit. The importance of emphasizing the skillset specific to the unit requirement for an in-depth conceptual understanding also was discussed in the session.

The session gave teachers ideas on designing assessment tasks that explore unfamiliar and real life situations so as to help the geckos develop independent thinking.

The discussion helped teachers to understand the advantages and importance of classroom engagement based on inquiry and concepts and the importance of building skills over textbook- driven teaching. The session was insightful in providing teachers the understanding about the essentiality of inter-groups and the subjects groups collaboration for balancing the learning outcomes.



Facilitating professional development



Transferring knowledge and experience

# The Launch of The Gaudium Sportopia

## స్పోర్ట్స్ స్కూల్ను ప్రారంభించిన గోపీచంద్

నాక్వి హైదరాబాద్ హైదరాబాద్ ప్రీమియమ్ ఇంటర్నేషనల్ స్కూల్ 'ద గాడియమ్' అధ్యక్షులలో నిర్మించిన బ్యాడ్మింటన్ సెంటరుకు ఆంధ్ర విక్రెస్పెన్సు భారత బీస్ కోర్ ఫర్లం గోపీచంద్ ప్రారంభించారు. పచ్చి ఏడాదినాటికి మరో 25 క్రీడాశాలల్లో ఇలాంటి స్పోర్ట్స్ స్కూల్స్ను నిర్మించే ఆలోచనలో ఉన్నామని, దీని కోసం రూ. 180 కోట్లు వెచ్చిస్తున్నారని ద గాడియమ్ స్కూల్, గాడియమ్ స్పోర్ట్స్ యొక్క వ్యవస్థాపకురాలు, డైరెక్టర్ కీర్తి రెడ్డి తెలిపారు. "చిన్నతనం నుంచే పిల్లలను చాంపియన్లుగా మార్చడానికి ఇటువంటి స్పోర్ట్స్ స్కూల్స్ను నిర్మించాలని భావించాము. నా ఆలోచనలకు ఆనుగుణంగా ఉండటంతో గాడియమ్ స్కూల్తో చేతులు కలిపాను అని గోపీచంద్ అన్నారు.



భవిష్యత్లో టీమిల్ టెన్నిస్, టెన్నిస్, ఫుట్ బాల్, అడ్రెటిక్స్, సిమ్మింగ్, వాలీబాల్, బాస్కెట్ బాల్, సాఫ్ట్ బాల్, క్రీకెట్, జిమ్నాస్టిక్స్, బాక్సింగ్, స్వూరర్, హాకీ, టేబిల్ టెన్నిస్, యమ్, స్పెటింగ్, జూడో, రెక్వాండో, క్రూటి, వేస్, మాటింగ్, అర్చరీ, రెజ్లింగ్, ఫెర్టింగ్, కబడ్డీ, యోగా క్రీడాశాలలోనూ అలాంటివి నెలకొల్పాలని గాడియమ్ స్కూల్ భావిస్తుంది.

## క్రీడల్లో సూపర్ పవర్ గా భారత్!

హైదరాబాద్ (ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి క్రీడాప్రతినిధి): భారత్ లో స్పోర్ట్స్ను కెరీర్ గా ఎంచుకునే వారి సంఖ్య ఇప్పటికీ పరిమితంగానే ఉందని భారత బ్యాడ్మింటన్ బీస్ కోర్ గోపీచంద్ అన్నారు. చదువుతో పాటు ప్రాథమిక దశ నుంచే పిల్లలకు స్పోర్ట్స్లో తగ్గిన ఇన్సైడ్ క్రీడాంగులో భారత్ సూపర్ పవర్ గా ఎదుగుతుందన్నారు. తన ఆలోచనలకు తగ్గట్టు ఇలాంటి ప్రజాశీకలతోనే దాదాపు రూ.180 కోట్ల వ్యయంతో బ్యాడ్మింటన్, టేబిల్, ఫుట్ బాల్, అడ్రెటిక్స్, బాక్సింగ్, హాకీతోపాటు 25 క్రీడలకు సంబంధించిన సకల సదుపాయాలు ఒకే ఆకాడమీలో ఏర్పాటు చేసేలా హైదరాబాద్కు చెందిన గాడియమ్ ఇంటర్నేషనల్ స్కూల్ ముందుకొచ్చిందని తెలిపారు. 18 ఏకరాల్లో 600 మంది విద్యార్థులకు హాస్టల్ వసతితో కూడిన ఆకాడమీని నిర్మిస్తున్నామని. 2020 కల్లా దీనిని పూర్తి చేస్తామని గాడియమ్ స్కూల్ డైరెక్టర్ కీర్తి రెడ్డి చెప్పారు.



## City gets its first badminton Gurukul

**TIMES NEWS NETWORK**  
Hyderabad: That things have changed from the 80s would be stating the obvious. That was the time when kids managed their sporting activity in the city —

the case in the last few decades, has to change," the Dronacharya award winner said and hoped this Gurukul would complement the nearly 25 such centres across the country.

The Gurukul here is planning to start state-of-the-art residential sports academies in 25 different disciplines on its 27-acre sprawling campus.

"Though several schools have made claims to develop sports on their campuses, it has not seen the light of the day. I'm glad this project is on. I will be there to deal with badminton and we've also managed to rope in a foreign coach from Indonesia," Gopi said. "Two years ago when I visited Singapore. I saw how the students of classes 5



**NEW BEGINNING:** Pulella Gopichand (right) at the launch of Gaudium Sportopia along with Kirthi Reddy and Prasad Mangipudi on Tuesday

mainly restricted to Fath Maidan — on their own. Not anymore. With travel time increasing — not always proportionally

## Sports and academics can go hand in hand now

India's first residential sports school opened at Gaudium Sportopia

**V.V. SUBRAMANYAM**  
HYDRABAD

India's chief badminton national coach P. Gopi Chand on Tuesday launched Badminton Gurukul Centre of Excellence at Gaudium Sportopia near here, which is said to be the India's first residential, fully-integrated world-class sports school.

The centre would start functioning with the formal inauguration of the eight-court badminton indoor stadium in a few days and by May 2020, all the other 24 disciplines, including tennis, squash, cricket, athletics,

gymnastics, football and basketball, would have full-fledged separate centres to take care of the needs and aspirations of students who wish to pursue both sports and academics, Mr. Gopi said.

"We will appoint a foreign coach along with a team of dedicated support staff to ensure quality coaching and the trainers at the centre will have access to the Gopi Chand Academy," Mr. Gopi explained.

The state-of-the-art sports school has a target of grooming over 1,000 students in different sports and reputed former internationals would be appointed to ensure quality coaching, thanks to the interest shown by Kirthi Reddy, director and founder of The Gaudium School, he said.



**Prasad Mangipudi,** strategic consultant of Gaudium Sportopia, Kirthi Reddy, director and founder of The Gaudium School, and chief badminton national coach P. Gopi Chand at the launch of Badminton Gurukul Centre of Excellence at Ramachandrapuram on Tuesday. **www.thegaudiumschoo**



# Event Roundup

## The Gaudium celebrates Independence Day

With great vigour and patriotism, The Gaudium celebrated the nations' 73rd Independence Day at its Kollur Campus. Ms. Kirthi Reddy, the Director of the school hoisted the national flag which marked the start of the celebrations. The welcome speech by Shreya Jain, the School Prefect, was to advocate the need for working for a better India. The geckos presented cultural programmes of different genres that exhibited their feeling for their mother country, India. The musical rendition and the dance performances awaken the feeling of oneness and love towards the country.

It was a moment of unity that demonstrated nationalism when all present sang the song 'Saare jahan se acha...' together, which concluded the celebrations. For the geckos, it was a celebration that retold the history of India's freedom struggle and a call for further action and hard work for India's bright future.



Dancing the heart out in pride; extolling the nation



Waving and fluttering in pride



Resonating patriotism



# Event Roundup

## Health Check-ups

When it comes to the geckos' health, The Gaudium is unyielding and takes incalculable precautions. Our priority is our geckos' health and safety and we are stringent, punctual and disciplined to ensure them. Every year The Gaudium organizes health-check-ups for all the geckos across the boards. This school year, it was held on two different days, 5 and 6 August 2019. The check-ups were done by a group of qualified doctors from reputed hospitals, camped in the school campus during the school hours. A detail BMI, ENT and Eye check-ups were done and a student wise record of the findings was preserved.



Health check-up



Eye-check up

# Website Links

## Events

<https://www.thegaudium.com/independence-day-2019/>

<https://www.thegaudium.com/health-checkups/>

<https://www.thegaudium.com/the-verbal-combat-that-invested-ibdp-geckos-with-skills/>

## **Our website:**

<https://www.thegaudium.com/>

## Learning blogs:

<https://www.thegaudium.com/the-learning-blogs/>

Facebook : For daily updates please like the page.

<https://www.facebook.com/thegaudiumschool/>

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