



PRISM

IB Diploma Program

Teacher's Corner

Assault on quality of education during the pandemic period

It is befitting to read the UNICEF working paper titled "Defining Quality in Education" at this point in time when education throughout the country has moved to online mode. It leads us to introspect the quality of education during this pandemic period. The country saw a nation-wide lockdown in the month of March last year. While economic activities resumed slowly a few months after lockdown, schools are the last to open. Now, most of the states in our country have allowed schools to reopen, albeit for higher grades. The lower grades still continue with online education. Closure of schools and eventual switch to online classes across the country have caused immense damage to the quality of learning and teaching. Online classes are based on information and communication technology (ICT) like smartphones, tablets, computers, laptops, TV and radio. A whole range of 'digital infrastructure' such as uninterrupted & speedy internet connection, availability of 3G/4G signal and continuous power supply is necessary to use these devices to attend online classes. However, there are differences in the quality of digital infrastructure which cause differences in the quality of learning. While urban areas tend to have better digital infrastructure, the rural areas lag behind in this area. This is evident in the 75th round of National Sample Survey (NSS) report on Household Social Consumption on Education in India (2017-18) which says that only 15% of rural households had internet access during 2017-18, while the proportion of urban households having internet access was 42%.



An effective instructional method should be inclusive and cater to the needs of students with different learning capacities. Beyond a point, online classes fail to be inclusive as these classes find it hard to meet the learning needs of students with learning disabilities. While most of the private schools are under tremendous pressure from parents to maintain student-centred teaching even in online classes, the online teaching in the case of government and government-aided schools, tend to be teacher-centred. This is primarily because of the limited scope for conducting various group activities, group discussions and debate which are usually conducted in a typical physical classroom. These factors cause students from disadvantaged backgrounds to lag behind in their learning in online classes.

Anbu Packiaraj
Commerce HOD

Holistic Excellence-TOK Debate




IBDP students need to write an essay based on one of the IB released knowledge questions in ToK (Theory of Knowledge). This year too the titles were released and after an initial whole class discussion which went on for 2 weeks, the IBDP year 2 students selected their titles of choice upon which they will write a 1600 word essay. To prepare them for the argumentative essay which comprises of real life situations that need to be explored from different perspectives, a debate was planned where the ToK Essay titles were the motions of the debate. The style of debating was the turncoat style of debating where the students presented contrary real life situations pertaining to the motions and explained knowledge issues lurking behind them. The debating sessions that went on for two weeks helped the students to see the loopholes in their planning of the essay.

Prithvi Sinha
HOD English & TOK Coordinator

Holistic Excellence- Visual Art Assessment

Idea sketch 1




While initially planning regarding what ideas i wanted to represent through this artwork , i was inspired by Frida Kahlo's self portrait . I , like the artist herself found my interest in cultural identity and commentary on social issues pushed me to approach this version for my artwork .

Followed by the inspiration , I developed my first set of drawings by connecting with my own culture . In the initial set of drawings , i represented my final first draft as a 2D drawing that resonates a self portrait in an abstract manner .

Navya -Dp2

Idea sketch 1




While developing the idea sketch , not only did i want include how i was inspired and influenced by the artist Amrita Sher-Gil. Since i was mainly influenced by how the artist represented herself to break stereotypes about feminism .

When i started with this artwork , I felt confident that this was breaking stereotypes on gender . However , i was unable to represent myself and my ideas in this portrait .

Navya -Dp2

Idea sketch 1




For this artwork , I was inspired by the artist Jackson Pollock and few of his self expressionist portraits . I tried to do something similar as i wanted this artwork to follow along with my theme of self portraits thematically but not stylistically .

So i developed a first layout of the self portrait taking inspiration from Jackson Pollock .

Navya -Dp2

My interest in architecture was another driving force behind the creation of this artwork. I wanted to depict the dystopian future of my surroundings by depicting the buildings around me in their destroyed future forms. The buildings symbolize the impact that urbanization has on the depletion of natural resources.

Layout 3



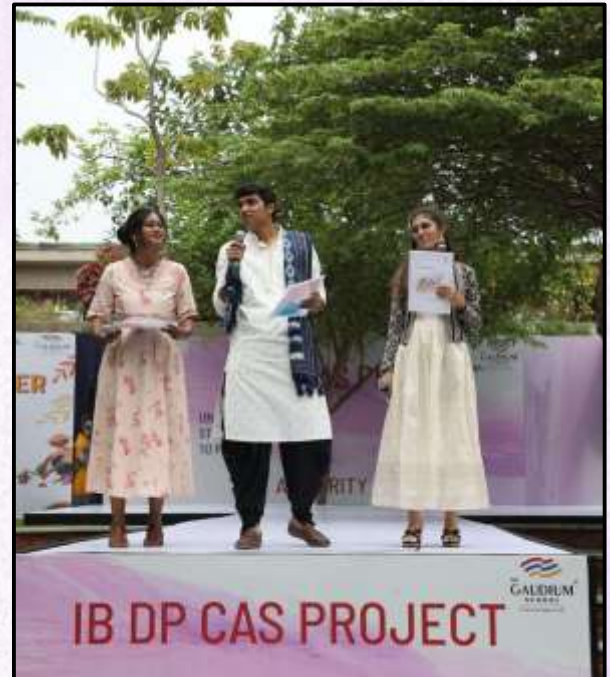
Nikita -Dp2

Assessment plays a crucial role in supporting learning as well as in measuring learning. Visual arts students at the Diploma Programme completed a studio and research portfolio which is used to evaluate student achievement. In their portfolio students include works in progress that document their research as well as sketches and a research notebook with critical self-reflections.

Debendra Kumar Sahoo
Visual Arts HOD

Core Values - CAS in Farmer's Market

By each passing year, the world is getting more addicted to the overnight phenomenon of Fast Fashion. Amidst the wastage of over a million tonnes of clothes every year, we might be heading towards an unfathomable sea of discarded fabric. Keeping that in mind, in this year's Farmers' Market, the Diploma students in IB at Gaudium came up with the idea of Undone, a fashion show that would celebrate sustainable fashion. Students worked under the guidance of their DPC, CAS coordinator, Activity Incharge and Fashion Studies facilitator and they also collaborated with experts from the fashion industry. The end result was a one of its kind fashion show where the minimalist, earthy and ethnic nature of fashion was showcased. The clothes that the students wore were made up of more sustainable fabrics compared to the more synthetic ones - this itself was a statement to uplift the ideals of eco-friendly fashion.



Just like all other student endeavours in the Farmers' Market, the fashion show was also a fundraiser which the Gaudium fraternity donates to the cause of the farmers, artisans and weavers. The principles of Creativity-Activity-Service which are at the core of the IB Diploma Programme were visible in the way the students came up for the noble cause and also in the way they executed the fashion show. All in all, it was a tremendous achievement for the students in terms of the idea and its materialisation.

cont..



Core Values-Special Assembly on Integrity



This special assembly was conducted to make students aware of the **Core value of Integrity**. Various pictures on dishonesty and honesty were shown which they analysed and exchanged their opinions with their peers. Then two real time incidents were shown in which the geckos gave their honest views on what will they do if that incident takes place in their lives. The take away from the discussion and scenarios made them realize the importance of having Integrity in life.

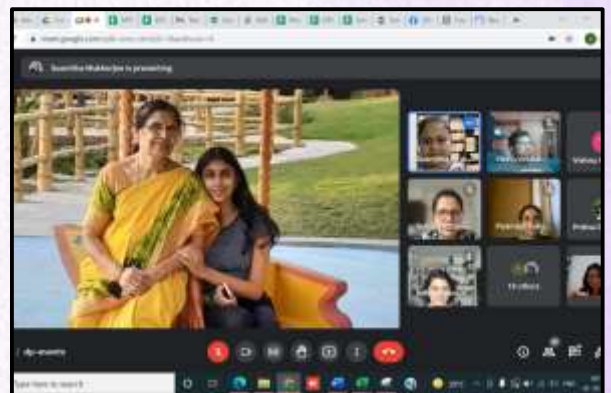
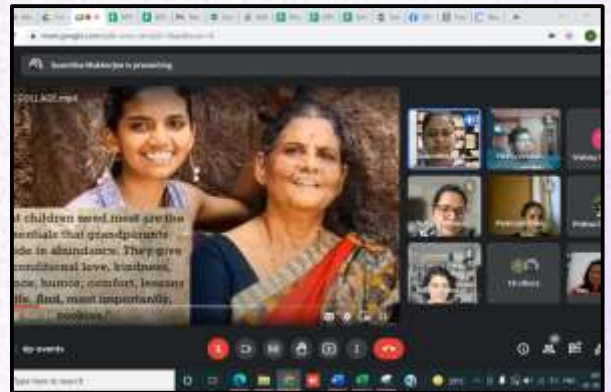
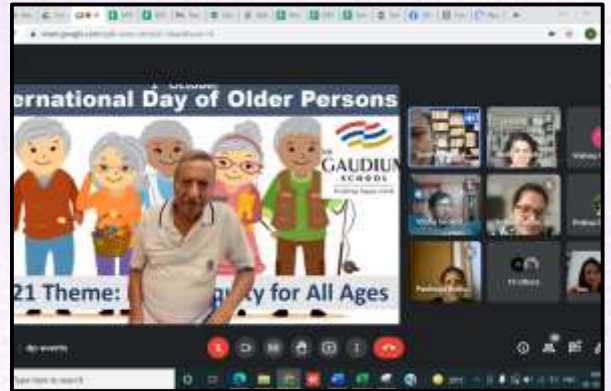
Core Values-Summative Assessment in IBDP-Semester 1 Examination



Assessments are essential for the students to measure the extent to which they have mastered advanced skills in fulfilling their subject set goals. They help them in retaining knowledge, understanding key concepts and applying standard methods.

The IBDP students at The Gaudium gave their first Semester examination from 15th November to 2nd December 2021.

It will be a continuous cycle, these experiences provide the students with feedback to progress for their future examinations. It also helps the facilitators understand what their cohort knows well, what they can do and what they still need to learn. The collaboration between all the stakeholders creates a rich tapestry of information that helps us know the educational and developmental interest of the cohort.



Stakeholder Engagement-GeckoBuzz



The need for an informal session where all the students and teachers converse and confab which would help build a brilliant bridge between the two most important stakeholders. In order to facilitate that need, we started with Gecko Buzz, a rapport building session where the students and teachers of the IB diploma came together and spent an hour trying to get to know each other better. They asked varied questions, some had to do with academics and some were about life in general. Some questions were simple conversation starters and some were loaded with ideology and responsibility. The fact that everyone was enthused is a reason why we would come back with more such sessions.

Stakeholder Engagement-Children's Day



We teachers try to make every day beautiful and wonderful for the lovely children who define our lives to the greatest extent. However, in order to ensure that the academics and discipline are taken care of, we do not seem as fun as they would want us to see through their innocent gaze - which is why the concept of teachers performing on Children's Day is so meaningful. And to keep that tradition going, all the IBDP teachers of Gaudium recorded songs and dances to be shown virtually. And, for those who were present physically, the teachers put up an amazing flashmob. The principal too joined them and let them know how much she cares for them. After the lockdown menace, the Childrens Day celebrations brought a fresh gust of wind amongst students and teachers.



Stakeholder Engagement- Library Orientation



Library Orientation introduced teachers to various updated vocabulary used in National and International books. This will help students and teachers to refer to various resources available in the library. There was a live session on using EBSCO which has an ocean of information in the form of research papers, journals, scholarly articles, ebooks, magazine and newspapers. These applications are of great use to all the stakeholders to grow professionally and academically. The Gaudium school online OPAC system which is like an online library where students can see the books available in our school library from any place in the world was also something that the teachers got oriented with.

Stakeholder Engagement- Principal addressing High School Students

On Friday, 27th November, the Middle & High School Principal Ms Shalini Singh Hamilton met all the middle school and high school students to inform them about a few important guidelines. The Principal stressed on the dress code and advised the students to wear clothes suitable to the school culture and decorum. She reminded them that The Gaudium maintains a 'Zero Tolerance' attitude towards bullying and students must refrain from anything that could be termed bullying.



She instructed them to ensure that the Covid-19 related protocols be adhered to strictly. The principal also reminded them of the application of the core values of respect and empathy in the act of wishing and smiling to everyone in the school. And finally, she asked them to be at their best when it came to discipline and also instructed the school cabinet to see to the necessary steps taken to ensure that discipline is maintained throughout the school year.



Mindfulness and Wellbeing-Happy Diwali



Illuminating and igniting lamps and souls, the festival of Diwali was celebrated at Gaudium in an utmost safe, safe and deliberate manner. On the 2nd of November, all the high school students and teachers came dressed in their ethnic best. In the second half of the day, all the grades came together, online and physically, to watch another show of dedicated collaboration between the students and teachers of Gaudium. Songs, dances and stories were used in the assembly presentation to showcase the ideals of the festival of light.

Global Leadership-Student Council Meet



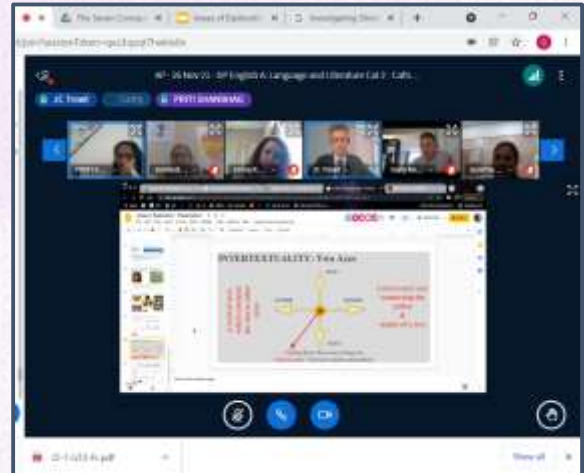
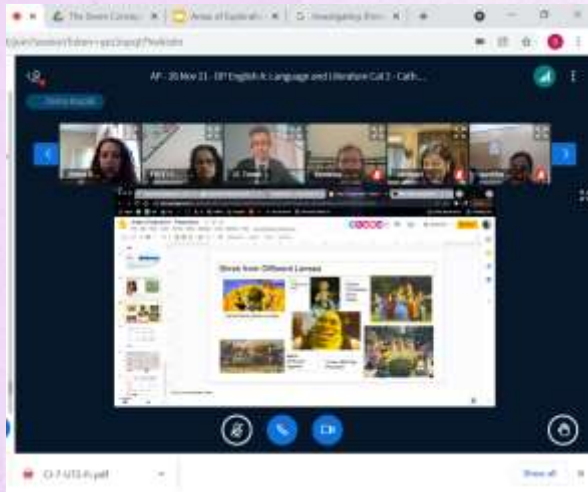
For the successful conduction of the school programmes, the cabinet members met on the 8th & 9th November to discuss different initiatives and agendas. The Head Girl and the Head Boy moderated the meeting where the upcoming events of Christmas, New Year, Sports Day and Sankranti were planned. Innovative ideas were explored and the classroom, dining hall and uniform protocols were reiterated so that those could be conveyed to the whole school. The cabinet members also discussed the different ways of supporting and counselling the younger students after the school reopens.

Global Leadership-All Hands Meet



From the ages of great naval glory, when the captain called all the sailors on the deck in a time of crisis, we have moved quite far where we do not summon all hands in a moment of crisis anymore. In fact, today all hands meet to ensure that every crisis is averted. So, on a cloudy Saturday afternoon, the 20th of November, all the teaching staff of Gaudium came together in the skating rink where the CEO Mr Ramakrishna Reddy addressed everyone and let everyone know about the decisions that were taken up and the measures that will be taken, to sustain the creativity and objectivity of the school space. Everyone who is born in October and November, their birthdays were also celebrated by cutting a key shape cake and it goes without saying how teachers are the "Key to Unlock the Potential", that every child has.

Global Leadership-Three Day Virtual Workshop-English(Language and Literature)



Who dares to teach, must never cease to learn...

There is no universally "right" way to plan for career growth and career development. But to find the right professional development opportunities that are best for you, you need to start with your career goals. Once you know your goals, it is easier to seek out and take advantage of the professional development opportunities that are right for you.

English : Language & Literature Category 2 IBDP training has widened my perception of analysing texts. The Language and Literature A course largely focuses on exposing students to a wide variety of literary and non-literary texts from a diverse cultural range, the purpose of which is to widen student perspective and develop critical thinking skills. To my mind, these aims are integral to the students ability to understand and participate in the larger world once they enter university and adult life, especially in a world that is becoming more and more interconnected. I am thankful that I was introduced to the prescribed reading list IB site which will be useful for me to refer to in the future. I also found out that there was not a requirement to have an equal number of female-to-male authors, though I think it would be good for my students to be exposed to different gender as well as cultural perspectives. Overall, I think I should review my book selections the next time I teach this course where the students will have more choices for novel selection.

I realised from our collective experience about the range of differing knowledge each of my group members possessed and how difficult it was to collaborate effectively online.

Sunitha Indukuri
CIE Coordinator

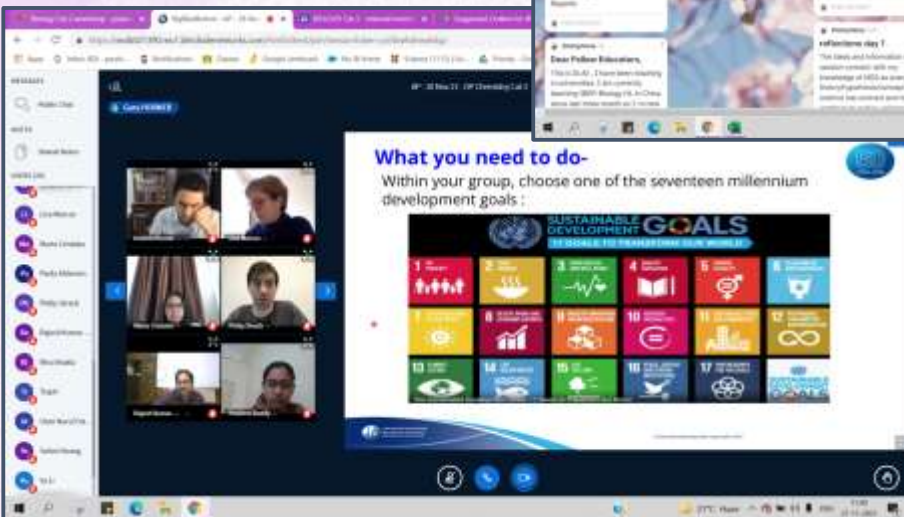
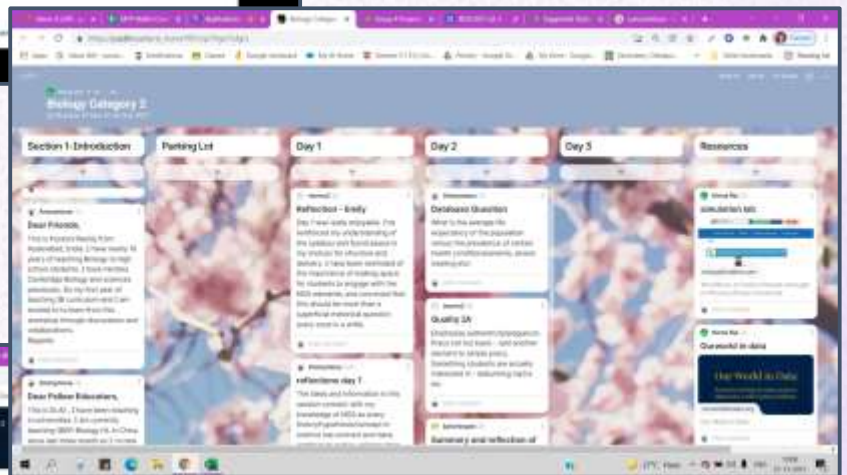


Global Leadership-Three Day Virtual Workshop-Biology and Physics

Activity – the Prescribed Practicals

- Look at the list of 7 PPs
- What opportunities do they offer for practising the Internal Assessment criteria?
- What opportunities do they offer for inquiry?
- What opportunities do they offer for developing the ATLs?
- What opportunities do they offer for ICT use?

Datalogging / Graph plotting / Spreadsheet / Database / Modelling



Virtual IBDP Workshops for Physics and Biology

Upcoming Events...

Date	Day	Event	Grade
4th Dec	Saturday	Three Way Conference	DP1 & DP2
10th Dec	Friday	Human Rights day- Panel discussion CAS project	DP1 & DP2
17th Dec	Friday	EE Cafe presentation by DP1	DP1
17th Dec	Friday	DP students orientation	DP1 & DP2
18th Dec	Saturday	Parent Orientation	Class 10th CI and CBSE parents
23rd Dec-2nd Jan	Thursday-Sunday	Winter Break	DP1 & DP2

Links

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/>

Sportopia registration link

<http://sportopia.thegaudium.com/pages/enquiries>



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