

# News Letter Aug-Sept 2020

## HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY - 74th year of celebration

The outstanding performances by Grade-1C children of NPS KRM. 2020-21



## Happy Independence Day



**Dear Readers,**

After the initial months of coming to terms with the ‘new normal’ we have bounced back, vibrant and euphoric. Our spirits as high as ever, manifest the fact that if positive and determined no challenge is unsurmountable.

We had our first most significant event of the year, Investiture Ceremony, streamed live for all our students and parents. It was followed by many celebrations, activities and competitions like any academic year. Here are the details. Enjoy reading...



**Niveditha S. Iyer (Class of 2020)**

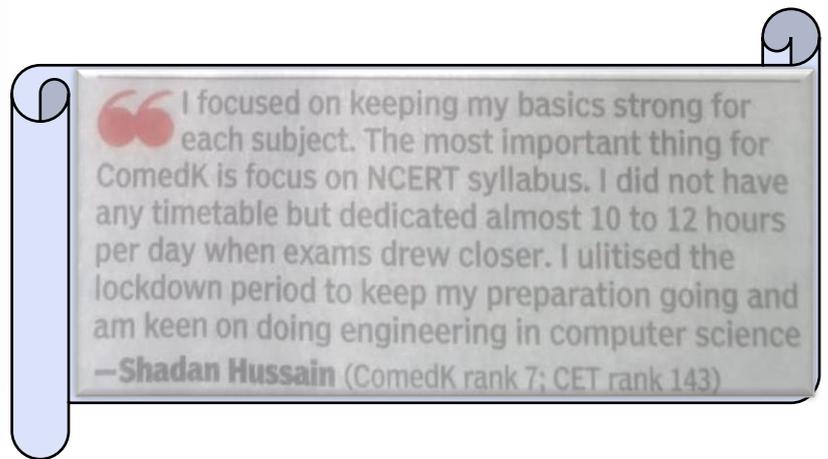
We are delighted to share the excellent news of our student **Niveditha S. Iyer (Class of 2020)** making history by being the first student from NPS Koramangala to have been accepted to both Stanford University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

A quintessential leader and a consummate problem solver Niveditha played the role of an exemplary School Prefect in her final year. So immense was her contribution to the school that she was awarded the Most Valuable Student of the Year Award during the academic session 2019-20.

A great role model, not just as the School Prefect, Niveditha has gone on to exceptionally influence her juniors by being a multifaceted student who left an imprint on whatever role she has adorned during her school days.

She has chosen the prestigious Stanford University over MIT where she intends to major in Computer Science and study Cognitive Science alongside. We wish her great success in her future endeavours.

It is matter of great pride and pleasure that **Shadan Hussain**, student of NPS Koramangala (batch 2019-20) secured 7<sup>th</sup> rank in ComedK and 143<sup>rd</sup> rank in CET held this year. Shadan attributes his success to relentless preparation and focus on keeping his basics strong. He wishes to pursue engineering in computer science.



**Shadan Hussain**  
(Class of 2020)



**Shivansh Sinha (Class of 2020)**

Our alumnus **Shivansh Sinha (Class of 2020)** topped the **Law School Admission Test - LSAT India 2020** exam with a score of 99.96 percentile. Shivansh also bagged the **Topper Scholarship** which is awarded annually to the test taker who receives the highest score on the LSAT—India. The scholarship entitles him to receive an award of up to Rs 4 lakhs which will cover their tuition and boarding / hostel fees for the first year of a law programme at any LSAC Global Law Alliance college.

On receiving the news of being the winner for this year Shivansh said, “LSAT gives a tremendous opportunity to excel in law education and beyond. Noting the same, I was extremely delighted to be able to do so well in such a prestigious exam with a format aligned with international standards”.



**Abhiram Nitin (Class of 2020)**

**Abhiram Nitin (Class of 2020)** secured 18th rank, out of approximately 53000 students in the Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) thereby gaining admission to the top law school in the country, National Law School of India University, Bangalore. Abhiram was also ranked 15th out of approximately 13000 students in the All India Law Entrance Test (AILET), conducted by the National Law University Delhi.

#### **RESULTS OF PREMIER ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2020**

<b>Student Name</b>	<b>JEE Advance</b>
<b>Raunak Prasant</b>	980
<b>Aryaman Lath</b>	3873
<b>Advaith Suresh</b>	4575
<b>Shadan Hussain</b>	7701
<b>Vidushi B</b>	8380
<b>Rohith Paul</b>	10405
<b>Abhinav Menon</b>	10947
<b>Aditya A J</b>	11293
<b>Vaishali S</b>	19470
<b>Anushka P Nair</b>	23261

Student Name	Entrance Examination	Rank
<b>Shadan Hussain</b>	JEE Mains	14819
<b>Gayathri V Raman</b>	NID DAT	124
<b>Raunak Prasant</b>	JEE Mains	2195
<b>Advaith Suresh</b>	JEE Mains	3766
<b>Rohith Paul</b>	PESSAT	57
	BITSAT	345 (Score)
	COMEDK	387
	JEE Mains	11626
<b>Anushka P Nair</b>	BITSAT	274 (Score)
	JEE Mains	80734
<b>Aditya A J</b>	BITSAT	326 (Score)
	JEE Mains	19750
<b>Aryaman Lath</b>	BITSAT	350 (Score)
	JEE Mains	8478
<b>Sankalp Kundu</b>	BITSAT	300 (Score)
	PESSAT	412
<b>Hita Juneja</b>	CET	809
<b>Vidushi B</b>	UGEE	111
	JEE Mains	20774
<b>Abhinav Menon</b>	JEE Mains	5559
<b>Vaishali S</b>	JEE Mains	12499
<b>Ishita Bharadwaj</b>	PESSAT	51
	CET	325
	VIT	6781
	JEE Mains	17310

**CLASS OF 2020 UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS** *(As on date)*

<b>Name</b>	<b>University</b>
<b>Abhinav Karthik</b>	<b>University of Massachusetts Amherst</b>
<b>Abhinav S Menon</b>	<b>International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad</b>
<b>Akshatha Pradeep</b>	<b>University of California, San Diego</b>
<b>Anirudh Nair</b>	<b>Flame University</b>
<b>Apoorva Ganesh</b>	<b>Birla Institute of Technology (BITS)</b>
<b>Archita Agrawal</b>	<b>University of Michigan - Ann Arbor</b>
<b>Dhruv Kumarjiguda</b>	<b>Nanyang Technological University</b>
<b>Dhruv N Vajipayajula</b>	<b>Temple University</b>
<b>Gayathri Venkat Raman</b>	<b>NID Bhopal</b>
<b>Nithya Manick</b>	<b>Nanyang Technological University</b>
<b>Niveditha S Iyer</b>	<b>Stanford University</b>
<b>Prachi Goyal</b>	<b>OP Jindal Global University - Sonipat</b>
<b>Pranav Nandan Parigi</b>	<b>Purdue University</b>
<b>Raghav Rastogi</b>	<b>Ashoka University</b>
<b>Romir Kulshrestha</b>	<b>Delft University of Technology (TU Delft), Netherlands</b>
<b>Sampath Rout</b>	<b>BITS Hyderabad</b>
<b>Samay Godika</b>	<b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston</b>
<b>Shivansh Sinha</b>	<b>Jindal Global Law School</b>
<b>Sonakshi Kapre</b>	<b>CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore</b>
<b>Soumil Das</b>	<b>Shiv Nadar University</b>
<b>Varsha Venkatesan</b>	<b>LaSalle College of the Arts, Singapore</b>

## Major Events

### Investiture Ceremony

‘Tough times don’t last tough people do.’

Leaders made up of such unflinching integrity, fortitude and attitude were bedecked with prestigious titles and badges in the first ever live streamed Investiture Ceremony in the history of NPS Koramangala on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2020. A total of 58 students were invested with various capacities and responsibilities as members of Student Council 2020-21. Guest of honour for the occasion, Director NPS Group of Schools, Dr Bindu Hari, felicitated the student leaders and inspired all to rise to the occasion by taking accountability for personal wellbeing as well as spreading happiness around them with little acts of kindness.

The melodious invocation song, Mridangam recital and the beats on the drums by our talented students resonated the rich tradition of NPS Koramangala. The newly anointed School Prefect Anika N Khandekar vowed to uphold the work ethics of the institution by being a strong bridge between the students and the faculty. In the concluding address Principal,

Ms. Jyotsna Nair complimented the new Students Council and expressed her pride at the marvellous success in Grade 10 and 12 Board examinations. She also commended the students and staff at NPS Koramangala being awarded the Best School in Bangalore and one in the top 10 in the country, according to a recent survey. As customary to Investiture ceremony each year, Ms. Nair announced the recipients of ‘Meenakshi Subramaniam Award for Academic Excellence’ to the topper in Grade 12 Board Examination. This year it is shared by Abhinav S Menon and Raunak Prashant on securing 97.6 %.

Pandemic can lock the playgrounds but cannot dampen the spirit of sportspersons. This was seen when the sports enthusiasts of NPS Koramangala zealously and earnestly convinced the authorities to the need of appointing a Sports Captain. Hence, in an extension of the Investiture Ceremony on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020, Ruchit Dinesh of Grade 12 B was conferred the title of Sports Captain. An accomplished athlete and decorated basketball player Ruchit was selected unanimously with most nominations in his favour.



**National Public School, Koramangala  
Student Council 2020-21**

Sl no.	Post	Grade 12 Prefect/ Captains/ Presidents/ Editor	Grade 11 Vice-Prefect/Vice-Sports Captain/ Vice-Captains/ Vice-Presidents/ Sub-editor	Grade 10 Secretary/ Sub-editor	Grade 9 Secretary/ Sub-editor
1	School Prefect	Anika N Khandekar, 12B			
2	School Vice - Prefect		Muskan Mathur, 11A		
3	Sports Captain	Ruchit Dinesh, 12B			
4	Sports Vice-Captain		Rohan Nachnani, 11B		
5	Challengers	Prarthana N Benakappa, 12B	Pradyun Goel, 11B		
6	Explorers	Ananya Shivaraj, 12B	Anupama R Bagade, 11B		
7	Pioneers	Trisha Mukherjee, 12A	Divyanshu Mitra, 11B		
8	Voyagers	Katyayani Pande, 12A	Auronav Chawla, 11A		
<b>CLUBS</b>					
1	Quiz Club	Shashank Jayant, 12B	Priyanshu Kar, 11A	Advik Kabra, 10C	Debayan Ghose, 9B
2	Literary Club	Kathryn P George, 12B	Parul Diwan, 11B	Shivani Kharosekar, 10C	Diya Agrawal, 9A
3	Music	Athul M Srinivas, 12A	Aditya Raj, 11A	Elisha James, 10C	Mridhula Vishwanath, 9B
4	Performing Arts	Neeraja Lad, 12A	Kriti Gupta, 11A	Sarah Thomas, 10A	Disha Kannan, 9B
5	Science	Shreya Aiyer, 12A	Nikita Kiran, 11B	Anvita Verma, 10C	Vihaan Mehrotra, 9C
6	Math	Jay Mehta, 12A	Pranjal Srivastava, 11A	Manjari Reddy, 10A	Amrit A Kuruganti, 9A
7	Cyber	Mansee Jain, 12A	Ishaan Kale, 11A	Aryan Mahesh, 10C	Dev Upadhyaya, 9C
8	Dramatics	Arav Jain, 12B	Ansh Grover, 11B	Yash Pandey, 10A	Maanya Golash, 9A
9	Eco	Advaita Krishnan, 12B	Varnika Jain, 11B	Ria Raghu, 10B	Sara Chhabra, 9A
10	Art	Mahi Singhal, 12B	Pragati Sakhuja, 11A	Priya S Kaluskar, 10A	Ruhika V Uppalapati, 9A
11	MUN	- -	Shubhi Agarwal, 11B	Pranav Goyal, 10C	Tanvi Koranne, 9A
12	School Magazine	Nidhi Pramod, 12B	Shreya Das, 11A	Aditi Jain, 10B	Renee T George, 9B

## Other Achievements

**Vansh Aggarwal** of Grade 8 B participated in the Harvard MUN committee for WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO). Oscar Berry from Massachusetts was the director for this committee. The topic of discussion was "Combating Anti-Microbial Resistance & Public Health & Recreational Drug Use". This committee had participation from countries like Kuwait, UAE, Singapore, Oman, USA, Nepal, Bangladesh, United Kingdom and India.

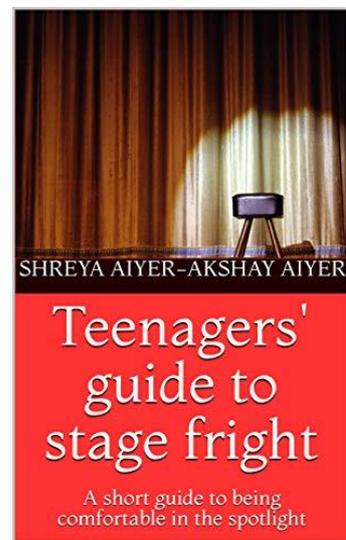
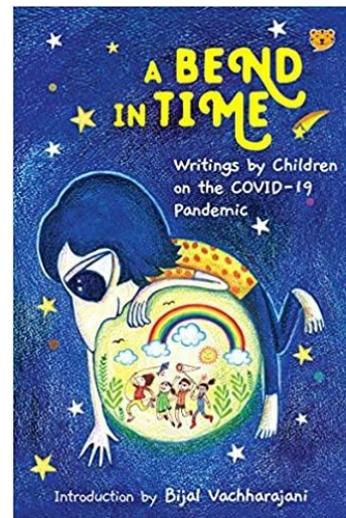
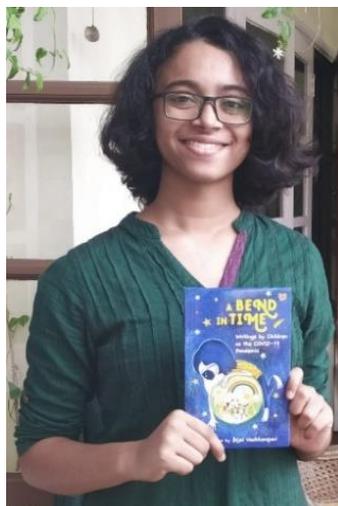
**Vansh Aggarwal won the "Honorable mention" among a group of 80 delegates in this committee.**

Vansh Aggarwal was one of the youngest delegates in committee and was competing with students who are currently in 10th/12th Grade and have been to above 50 MUNs.

**Speaking Tiger Books** via their children's publishing arm published a book, 'A Bend in Time: Writings by Children on the COVID 19 Pandemic'.

It is a collection of stories and essays by children from different parts of India - about their thoughts and experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Shreya Aiyer's (Grade 12 B)** essay is one of the dozen pieces that is published in the book. She writes about reading, sourcing books, getting acclimatised to reading digitally during these changed times. Throughout the collection there runs a sense of time lost and gained—of how this phase of global history is a bend in time. Honest, wise yet innocent, thoughtful and full of hope, this anthology is a peek into the mind of a generation that could re-imagine our world and, if we are lucky, make it safer, wiser and more compassionate.



**Shreya Aiyer (Grade 12 B) and Akshay Aiyer (Grade 10 C)**, the brother-sister duo has written and self-published **Teenagers' guide to stage fright: A short guide to being comfortable in the spotlight on Kindle Edition**

This short & simple self-help book is based on first hand experiences of Shreya and Akshay Aiyer, two teenagers who overcame their fear of performing and public speaking. It has some of

their best tips, tricks and strategies to becoming better performers, shrugging off fear of the spotlight and learning how to have fun on stage. They have a decade of professional speech and drama training and have certification in the Trinity Speech and Drama exams.

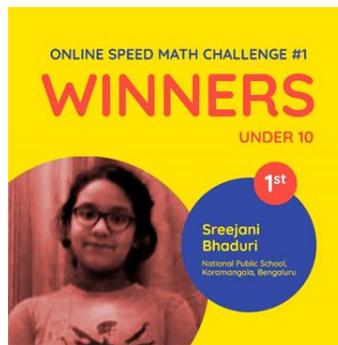
### **Logiqids**

In **Logiqids** – Logical Reasoning for kids national level competition **Arham Gada of Grade 5 B**, secured a **National Rank of 2**, State Rank of 2 and City Rank of 2 and **topped the school with 1<sup>st</sup> Rank**. **Sreejani Bhaduri Grade 5 C** secured a National Rank of 3, State Rank 3, City Rank 3 and **stood 2<sup>nd</sup> in the school**.

### **Melio Challenge**

**Sreejani Bhaduri** of Grade 5 C emerged the star of the week with a hat-trick of winnings and that too first positions in all the three contests of Melio Challenges. These were **Online Speed Maths Challenge #1 Under 10 category**, **Online Storytelling Challenge #4 Under 10 categories** and **Online Poetry Reciting Challenge #2 - under 12category**. There were **190+** participants

from across India, USA, Bahrain, UK, Thailand, UAE participating in the week's challenges.



Sreejani Bhaduri reciting her award-winning self-composition - India: An Ode to Our Great Nation



### **Photography Contest**

**Aarav Kejriwal of Grade 6B** won Family Moments Photo Contest organised by **Shoots & Shoots Photography and Film Academy**.



### **Interschool Events**

#### **Vivum**

TISB held their annual VIVUM fest between 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020. **Rysha S of 11A** and **Pranav Goyal of 11B** placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Sell Up event. **Ruhika, Manasvi, Rachana and Ritika of Grade 9** won the fourth prize in the Out of the Box fashion show event. **Sumedha R of Grade 12** came 1<sup>st</sup> in the Seasons-themed fashion event. **Shubhankar D of Grade 10 A** bagged the first place in the music festival. **Shreya Aiyer of Grade 12 B** came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Kispire event. **Satvik of Grade 10B** placed first in the Trojan Cup football event.

## Synchronize

**Saarang Srinivasan of 11B** placed 1<sup>st</sup> and won a cash prize of 1000 rupees in the Technocrat coding event of the Bishop Cotton Boys High School Synchronize fest held on 9<sup>th</sup> September.

## Colossus

**Vanshika and Sanjana of Grade 11** placed second in the Corporate Inbound in the Christ fest, Colossus held on 26<sup>th</sup> September.

## Hackathon: Wings of Fire

Whitefield Global School conducted a Hackathon: Wings of Fire on 18<sup>th</sup> July. **Devarati, Lavanya and Ayantika of Grade 8** bagged the 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

## Capture the Monsoon Photography Competition

Shoots and Shoots Photography and Film Academy held a photography competition. **Oisika Das of 7C and Gungun Surana of 8B** placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, **Nethra R of 7C** placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, **Anirudh A of 8B, Akash P and Aahana A of 6A** got the consolation prize.

## Classmate Spell Bee

**Sharvari Barhanpure of Grade 10B** took part in the Classmate Spell Bee competition in the first week of March and

bagged the position of Bangalore Topper and was a national finalist. The event was telecast live, and she qualified for the highest round at Mumbai.

## Other Events

To commemorate the joyous occasion of 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day this year- with just as much zeal and fervour as last year- students and teachers alike rose to standards beyond anyone's expectations even in such uncertain times, and gave us a show to remember.

This year's Independence Day Celebrations took place virtually. The excited energy of everyone was the same as it would've been, had we been on the school grounds. We began the celebrations with the school prayer. However, the main event of the day was of course, the beautiful video that the students and teachers had spent days and nights tirelessly stringing together.

The video- named, 'A Tribute to The Nation By National Public School Koramangala'- began with the evergreen lines by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, "I am proud of being an Indian..." with a montage of numerous scenes and images chronicling a few of

India's achievements following it. The national anthem was played, and flag hoisted. 'Into the Heaven of Freedom' portraying Tagore's dream for India was recited followed by a dance by the students of Grade 4.

No celebration of Independence Day is complete without Hindi, our national language. 'Face of Future', a poem was recited by the students of Grade 9 and 10. Despite being unable to meet physically, the students of Grade 11 performed a play – 'Zoom In', proving that nothing is impossible even within the confines of our homes.

The students of Grades 10, 11 and 12 performed a medley of songs ranging from 'Teri Mitti' to 'Ae Watan', reminding us of the cost at which this freedom came. A fusion dance followed, performed by the students of Grades 6, 7, 8 and 10. The quick beats and graceful movements certainly lightened the mood. This was followed by a dance depiction of the poem 'Invictus' by William Ernest Henley propelling viewers to follow the dictum 'I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul.'

Just when we thought the program was over, a

surprise quiz was announced. The students participated eagerly putting up an average time of 17 seconds. Altogether, it was a splendid show and it reminded us that each one of us has the capability to make a change and each of us has a duty towards India.

*By Adrija Thakur and Ritika Mallick – Grade 9C*

### **Teacher's Day celebration**

We may have not been physically together but our faith, love and unity brought us together. All the teachers of NPS Koramangala thoroughly enjoyed their Day by absolutely letting their hair loose. Dance, songs, fun filled 'knowing each other better' quiz, Queen of Sheeba game, creative costumes, a rewarding video tribute to teachers and the unmissable Antakshari filled the day with fun, laughter and humour which was deservedly due after the hectic months of work! Video by alumni and live rendition of poems by students unmistakably warmed the heart of all teachers.

The pandemic too went weak in its knees as the students of Grade 12 made live a video curated by the

ever energetic and lively bunch. It was heart-warming to see how the children defied the restrictions of the pandemic and exulted their teachers with an excellent show of songs, music, dance sequences, speech, poems and cute messages.

### **1M1B Programe**

1M1B completed Level 2 of the Future Leaders Program for the students who enrolled in the program in 2019. The students did some incredible work through their projects. In Level 2, 14 students successfully completed 8 projects which were presented to the friends and family.

In Level 3, based on the evaluation of the work done students were given a Go for Level 3 - Global Level. **12 students (6 Projects)** have been selected for Level 3. These students will now be mentored by 1M1B mentors Vandana Kidwai and Irene Manning in Level 3. Level 3 will be in 2 parts; Part 1 includes online training and pitching sessions and Part 2 will be the 3-day New York trip which will take place in December 2020 or June 2021.

### **Details of students selected to Level 3:**

1. How can we increase awareness and improve perception of a plant-based healthy diet among youth? - **Ishana Modi and Ria Raghu of Grade 10.**
2. How can we motivate and skill children and youth on safety and disaster management? – **Neha Chundari, Riya Nagar and Aadya Laul of Grade 10**
3. How can we address the problem of stress and isolation faced by youth in the age group of 12-18 years through volunteer work? – **Isha Dubey, Jaanya Wadhwa, Vaishnavi Bhaskar of Grade 10**
4. How can we ensure e-waste is disposed properly and recycled responsibly, as well as commercialise it to support the underprivileged? – **Pranav Goyal of Grade 10**
5. How can I help pushcart vendors and other small shops to digitise, standardise their selling methods to achieve a more stable income? – **Aaryan Vijay of Grade 10**

6. How can we respond to the COVID 19 pandemic while also addressing our original problem of irresponsible buying and consumption of clothes? - **Nishtha Ladi and Mayuki Gupta of Grade 10**

### **Story Books- Interactive Session**

Students of Grade 6 and 7 attended a delightful session on 'Storybook Recommendations' on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> September, respectively. The talk, presented by the two sisters Ms Sanjana and Aparna Kapur associated with Amar Chitra Katha and Pratham Books, was solely about the enchanting world of books and the booklovers. The sisters who shared a charming bonhomie engrossed the children in their reminiscences of how they spent their own childhood in the company of fascinating books and how it shaped them and their lives.

During the lively interactive sessions, the Kapurs advised the children to go beyond what meets the eye. In other words, they should explore and read newer books, series and authors

than just the popular ones. The need to 'ask the right questions' about books to the adults- the librarian, teacher or parent- was emphasised. 'Go to the library; keep asking for more books, new books; visit different book stores' was reiterated.

Soaked in their passion for books, the Kapur sisters opened the eyes of the audience to the changing Indian book market scenario where the exclusive foreign authors are passe and are replaced by new Indian authors with their spell-binding books and series. The Q & A session was a hit with students. Numerous queries on various genres of books were asked and the hosts delightfully recommended from their own writings, readings and lists available with them.



### **UDAAN 2020- Virtual Education Fair**

In an endeavour to counsel the students on the best career/educational options available to them after Grade 12, NPS

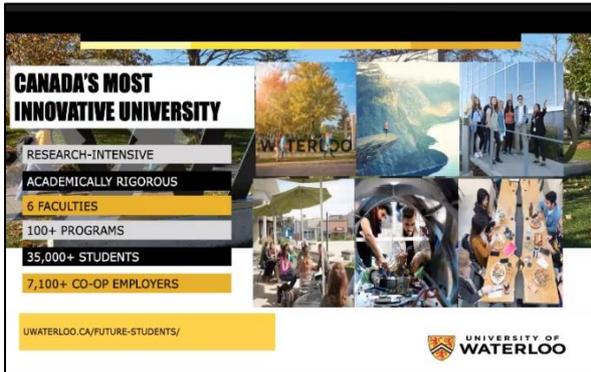
Koramangala has been individually inviting prestigious Indian and foreign universities to its premises every year. However, this year the new scenario presenting new possibilities, the school hosted its first edition of UDAAN 2020 - a virtual Education Fair- for the parents and students of Grade 11 and 12 on 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Six eminent universities from India and overseas namely KREA, Ashoka, FLAME, University of Waterloo, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and National Institute of Fashion Designing (NIFT) participated in the fair. Holding the session in a series through a virtual platform, each university representative shared pertinent information about their institution, like the courses offered, eligibility, selection criteria, course specifics, infrastructure, fee structure, facilities, faculty, placement programmes etc. Post presentations parents and students clarified their queries and doubts in the Q&A session. The meetings proved immensely beneficial for students as well as for their parents to be able to take informed decisions at the turning point of their lives.



## Parent Teacher Meet

PTMs were held for Grade 1-5 from 10<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of August, for Grade 6-8 students on 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> September and for Grade 10 in the second and third week of September. The novel virtual platform proved efficacious as the teachers interacted with the parents on one on one basis. It was ensured that children are adjusted and are at ease with the new mode of teaching; concerns relating to online learning, regularity in uploading work etc. were addressed to. Valuable advice to enhance productivity of students were imparted. PTM for new students in Grades 1 to 5 were scheduled in the last week of July and first week of August to welcome them to NPS KRM family.



We asked our students of Grade 6-8 about their experiences relating to the online classes. We received many interesting responses. Here is a gist of that...

**What do you like the most and the least about online classes?**

**Like Most**

- As good as school, well organised
- No travel for long hours
- Learn more from presentations, research
- Learning online is interesting, interactive, fun
- 15 min break, asynchronous classes make it less strenuous
- Learning is happening despite COVID

**Like least**

- Internet problem lead to disruption
- Increased screen time, strain to eyes
- Lack of physical interaction with teachers and friends

**Give specific details on how you interact in the class with your teachers and friends.**

**Teachers**

- Raise 'hand' in MS Teams
- Video, audio, chat (active class participation)
- Submit homework through content library
- Answering questions asked in class, online quiz
- Show schoolwork by switching on camera
- Post on channels in MS teams

**Friends**

- On phone after school, group study using video calls
- Sometimes, teachers allow interaction before class starts
- During discussions, debates like in history

**Name the various online teaching methods used by your teachers that you find exciting.**

- Power Point Presentations
- Lots of Videos
- Online Activities like- Nearpod, Padlet, Kahoot, MindMeister etc.
- Sharing the Screen, content library, PPTs and assignments
- The whole Microsoft package as it provides all the essential tools needed for online learning
- Teachers giving us control so we can contribute by writing our ideas for the class to see
- Online surveys
- Online labs, simulations

**Do you think online teaching is better than normal classroom teaching? If Yes, why; If No, why?**

Yes

- Online projects are fun
- Easy to do online work
- Online research is interesting
- Visualization helps in better understanding (ppts, videos)
- Study from comforts of home

No

- Miss experiments in science lab , classroom , friends
- It is better to meet teachers in person
- Strain on eyes, increased screen time

**Suggestions to make online classes more interesting.....**

Like

- Educational games
- Book reading, summarising time
- Asynchronous classes can involve more textbook work and less screen time
- PE classes can be longer than 12 mins.
- Online class assembly
- Allot some time to laugh and talk during online classes with classmates and the teacher
- Reduce verbal delivery, increase videos and PPTs.

**Based on feedback collected from students of grades 6 to 8!**

## Independence Day Primary

**Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country.**

Pandemic induced lockdown or not, NPS KRM celebrated the nation's 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day in its new normal way- an online and virtual celebration. Their exuberant spirits did not wane at the prospect of an online assembly. In the words of our Principal Ms. Jyotsna Nair, 'there are some things that cannot change, rather MUST not change and one of them is our patriotic fervour towards our motherland.'

Students of Grade 1 and 2 celebrated Independence Day with enthusiasm. Dressed in traditional attire, they listened attentively to the story of India's Independence. Students participated in the Independence Day Assembly by singing songs, reciting poems, and dancing to the tunes of patriotic songs. Students dressed up like freedom fighters of India (famous as well as the unsung heroes) and delivered a short speech regarding their sacrifices to make India an independent.

Grade 3 showcased their talent and love for the nation through various

activities organised for them. The day began with the assembly where every child was given a platform to perform. There were speeches, songs, thoughts, quizzes, role plays, dances and much more. As the day unfolded, students made bookmarks to depict the National symbols and wrote a creative piece on the 'Importance of Freedom' and how they celebrate Independence Day. They also did an MS Paint activity on the similar theme.

The tricolour was evident in costumes and performances of students of Grade 3. Grade 4 assembly had quizzing, singing, speeches on great freedom fighters and the history of Tricolour. Students displayed their creativity by designing a poster themed – 'India marching towards Global Dominance'.

Grade 5 students presented rhythms of obeisance, inspirational songs and dances, poems and speeches along with an array of colourful slides that created a wholesome nationalistic spirit. A colourful PPT was shown on India's fight for Independence and the day ended with the playing of the National Anthem.

In short, the celebrations were stamped with the undeniable NPS Hallmark.



**Sachit Bhujang 5C**  
**Playing Vande Mataram**



**Manmeet S Chhabra 5 C**  
**dancing to Aye Watan Mere..**

## Ethnic Day – Grade 1

**When you are enthusiastic about what you do, you feel this positive energy. It's very simple - Paul Coelho**

The students of Grade 1 celebrated Ethnic Day on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020 in connection with the EVS lesson -Festivals. Students donned their finest ethnic costume symbolizing

different states of India, from Kashmir and Punjab in the North to Kerala and Tamil Nadu in the South; Assam in the East to Gujarat in the West. Students spoke about all the important festivals of each state. It was a riot of colours as they brought the traditions alive and made the day festive with their enthusiasm.

Dev as Lala Lajpat Rai



### Health Week- Primary

**“Health is a state of body. Wellness is a state of mind, when you combine both you get a**

### healthy body housing a happy mind”.

To augment awareness on good diet, health, hygiene, and overall wellbeing at home, ‘Health Week’ was organized from 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020, and keeping in mind the NPS objective of a holistic approach a wide range of activities were planned. The day began with a mindful talk by the Grade teachers on different values. This was followed by Yoga Asanas and warm up exercises.

The significance of eating healthy was reinforced with a ‘Track your Diet’ chart where the students got to note down their diet and even included calorie counts to encourage healthy eating. ‘Budding Chef’ offered few innovative recipes that

were tried out by the enthusiastic young chefs. The week included a health, hygiene and nutrition talk by the school nurse Ms. Smitha Matthew for Grades 1 to 5. Ms. Anju Chhabra, the guest speaker, addressed

Grade 5 on benefits of nutrition. The little ones had an art activity on ‘Happy Vegetables’. The week ended on a happy note with the students making a note of all the activities that make them happy everyday through the week. The icing on the cake being the ‘Virtual Party’, the students enjoyed during their short break, together with loads of goodies as a culmination of the week.



HEALTH WEEK 14<sup>TH</sup> TO 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER



BUDDING CHEFS



YOGA ASANAS



*Keep Calm and do Yoga !!*

**Kid's Healthy Eating Plate**

Water

Vegetables

Fruits

Healthy Protein

Whole Grains

*Budding Chefs..*

Primary Health Week

## Montessori

The month of August marks the beginning of celebrations in any academic year. Families were very much part of the Independence Day celebrations this year. The students, parents and teachers alike were dressed in the tri colours for the occasion. Everyone joined in to sing patriotic songs. During class, the children proudly wore the tri colour garlands they had made and were seen creating their own craft to commemorate the day. The Juniors and Seniors spoke about a famous Indian personality, which was recorded and stitched together into a movie. This joint production by parents and teachers was premiered during the **Miles of Smiles** class. It was a moment of joy and pride to see our little stars speak eloquently and with elan.

We are proud to display samples of craft made and uploaded by students.



## Splash of Colours

**“One can speak Poetry just by arranging colours well...”-Vincent van Gogh**

This is exactly what our KG1 children did with their scintillating show in the month of August. The Grand Finale of the EVS topic- **Colours** was planned to enable the children to experiment with a wide range of activities. While some

children brought their favourite coloured objects and spoke about it confidently, others sang songs on colours with actions in their sweet voice. Our little scientists enjoyed experimenting with colours, as our little story tellers narrated a few interesting stories on colours with props self-assuredly. This was an excellent learning experience and a fun filled day for the children.

## Independence Day Celebration:

Along with the culmination of EVS topics Colours and Living and Non-living, KG faculty also celebrated **Independence Day**. Adorned in Tri colour attire, teachers and children sang ‘Saare Jahan Se Acha Hindustan Humara’ in unison.

The teachers spoke about the significance of Independence Day and the sacrifices of our National leaders.

A story on children learning to be independent was uploaded for them which encouraged them to be confident in their abilities and be able to do things by themselves.

## *I Know Myself*

**Talk Show**– ‘I Know Myself’ was conducted by KG2 on August 1, 2020. It was an excellent culmination of the EVS topic ‘Myself’. The children flaunted props and some were dressed in accordance with the chosen topic. With the choice of four internal organs or the five sense organs, learnt by them, children made an innovative display. The parents were appreciated for the effort to prepare their children for the culmination and to make it a big success.

## **Am I Living? Or Am I Not?**

The entire class came together for the culmination of EVS topic: **Living and Non-living** held on August 14, 2020. For a Game Show the class was divided into five groups and children were called according to the groups in an innovative way. Teachers tossed the picture dice, the children had to identify the picture on the dice and give reasons why a particular picture was living or non-living. Children were thorough with all the characteristics of Living and Non-living. They were quick and

spontaneous with their answers. Teachers and parents enjoyed the event as much as the children did.

## **Montessori**

During the month of September, the parents of the Montessori Freshers were part of an interactive session with the Montessori coordinators. The parents were given an insight into how the different activities have helped children improve their skills. They were encouraged to identify the ways in which their children are showing growth and to celebrate it. Parents were also introduced to the language program and how the school and parents will collaborate to help all freshers at their point of need. The feedback received via the Google form was indicative that the session objective was achieved.

## **Green Day**

As a culmination of EVS topic ‘Plants’, ‘Green Day’ was organised on 26<sup>th</sup> September for the children of KG2. The parents were informed to keep the resources ready according to the allotted groups. They were also

requested to make accessories like head gears, necklaces, bracelets, with parts of a plant like leaves, flowers etc.

It was rewarding to see the teachers, children and parents, all dressed up in brown and green (dress code for the day) with self-made creative accessories. Group 1 made a poster on ‘Conservation of Plants’, Group 2 decorated ‘Plant on a Plate’ by using vegetables like carrot for root, broccoli for flowers and so on. Group 3 created ‘A Magical Tree’ which had the powers to make the Earth a better place. Children and parents worked as a team for 10 minutes after which each child explained what their team had fashioned.

It was a day filled with a lot of excitement, family bonding, active participation, creativity, fun and of course hands on learning.

The children relished working with their parents during class and presented their work with pride and confidence.

Before leaving for the day, all took a pledge to save and care for plants and trees.

## Students' creative work

### India: An Ode to Our Great Nation

*By Sreejani Bhaduri  
Grade 5C is the award-winning poem that she composed and recited in the Melio Online poetry reciting challenge #2*

India is a GREAT nation  
- believing in Unity in Diversity.  
Here live all people - the weak, downtrodden and the mighty

Achieving independence of our nation - was no mean feat,  
The powerful British - was quite hard to beat.

The British policy to conquer was "Divide and Rule"  
Even while leaving they used Partition as a tool!

The movement started in 1857 - by Shaheed Mangal Pandey  
The Mutiny proved that Indians are too hard to slay.

The inspiring words of Kavi-Guru Rabindranath Tagore-  
Kindled Nationalism in Indians and helped it soar.

The great leadership of Gandhi, Nehru and Patel  
Helped us to win this difficult battle.

For Salt Satyagraha it was time for Indians to start the Dandi March  
A momentous occasion when Gandhi-ji tried to free India from the British perch!

Netaji and the INA - showed what it means to take on the British  
With great bravery and courage, they took the fight to the finish.

Netaji inspired us to build the nation's military strength  
Gandhiji introduced Khadi - and kept British products at an arm's length.

The massacre of Jallianwala Bagh - we should never forget -  
Let no country or people - ever face - so much hate!

Rabindranath Tagore renounced the British Knighthood recognition  
The gesture helped the national movement to a higher position!

Due to the Great Famine in 1943 - people had nothing to eat  
It was on basic staple food - the British Government decided to cheat!

The atrocities of the British made Indian eyes wet with tears,  
But our resilience and determination -helped conquer all fears!

Now when we proudly see - our great Indian Tricolor  
We solemnly remember - the freedom fighters' great valour!

Today on the 74th Independence Day - as we unfurl the Indian Tricolor high  
Remember that we were a British colony for 200 years - and analyze why?

Even today the neighboring terrorists - want us to live in fear and fright  
But they don't know our nation's strength to stand up and fight!

Let us all contribute and help our great nation flourish  
Ignite the national spirit - the idea of India which we nourish.

From the Himalayas in the North to Kanyakumari in the South,  
Let us help and contribute - to put food in every mouth.

As Kavi-Guru inspired "Where the mind is without fear - and the head is held high"  
Let us all take a pledge for nation building - till the day we die!

## THE FUTURE IS FEMALE

In our battle against the novel coronavirus, it becomes necessary to acknowledge and appreciate the efforts of the corona warriors. When we say corona warriors, we must give equal importance to medical professionals as well as the government functionaries all over the world. While keeping track of the COVID- 19 statistics, I realised that women in the forefront have handled the situation very efficiently across different fields.

In our own country, KK Shailaja, popularly known as teacher, who is the Health Minister of Kerala has made notable contributions in tackling the virus. The public health infrastructure in Kerala in terms of availability of hospital beds, testing kits, contact tracing, quarantine facilities et al were boosted with great alacrity. In fact, WHO and The World Bank have applauded Kerala's efforts and the Indian edition of the Vogue magazine featured her on the cover with the title "Vogue Warriors". She was especially instrumental in containing the outbreak of the Nipah virus in Kerala a few years back. She was recently honoured by the UN on its Public Service Day on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2020. The event was conducted to laud the efforts of men and women all over the world, who have risked their lives for the society during this outbreak.

There is a plethora of examples across the world that proves my point. With Angela Merkel as the Chancellor, Germany's mortality rate due to the pandemic is much lesser than that of other European countries like France, Italy, Britain and Spain. Finland is ruled by a coalition government of four parties, all of which are led by women. Prime Minister Sanna Marin of Finland, who was the youngest head of state in the world when she took charge, brought a millennial's perspective in handling the virus. She played a key role in making the

morbidity rate of Finland far less than countries more developed than it like Sweden. Among the Asian countries, Taiwan led by Tsai Ing-wen has also fared well. She introduced several measures and managed to control the spread of the virus without having to declare a lockdown. Taiwan also distributed millions of masks to the USA and to Europe.

All these examples are proof enough that women should be encouraged to participate in all fields as they handle their work efficiently. These unprecedented times have brought to light their commitment to community and resilience. They have shown the world how power can be wielded to benefit the society. It is often said that only when a person is in a crisis one comes to know their true character. Women have surely proven theirs.

*Ananya Miriam Jose, 10 B*

## Books

Books, books, books

The best friend you can have,

They take you to a world of fantasy

Detective, horror or mystery

Any book is fine

Each one is divine

If you give me one

I really won't mind

Reading books is a good habit

Whether it is early in the morning

Or before going to bed

This is very frequently said

But why read a book

When there are movies to be seen

Because the TV harms your eyes

As it is a screen

From Harry Potter  
To Dickens classics  
Each book is different  
But all give the same pleasure  
To a child or a parent

- *Anika Gokhale*, 6C

### **LIKE MOTHER, LIKE DAUGHTER**

William Ross Wallace once wrote - 'The hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world'. Several people have role models that they find inspiring, unique and skilled. However, since the very start, my mother has been my one and only inspiration. My mother's work schedule has always been demanding and arduous, with long working hours and abrupt calls. As soon as we leave for school, her crazy routine begins. She gulps down her morning tea and rushes into the shower as if a bull is chasing her. With her wet hair bundled, she stuffs some food into her mouth, slips into heels and rushes off for the office. Yet, both my sister and I, have never felt derelict. Our mother has always been there to light up our path, to give advice as a friend and lend a tight hug when our hearts feel low. She has led us to become independent, headstrong and bold women and at times a little loony and fun to make life effervescent. People find it intriguing how my mother travels solo universally, often taking us two sisters along. Through these fascinating experiences I have learnt values like self-confidence and courage, which are very

important in life. My mother has never prepared the road for us, instead she has prepared us for the road. My mother has been my anchor in the strong sea of life. Never has she picked up a stone from our path, instead let it graze our feet a bit so that the next time we encounter an obstacle, we can remove it ourselves. In three words, she describes herself as unconventional, a warrior and a rebel. And in the future, I would like to identify myself in the same way.

*Ohanna Chakraborty Lahiri*, 8A

## **Teacher Speak**

### **Magic of Gratitude**

**Gratitude** is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul." –Henry Ward Beecher.

The soul which fosters this blossom feels tranquil and serene. Undoubtedly, it is a bliss which not many of us practice. It is a channel via which goodness enters and disseminates as well. The question which shoots is; how to practise gratitude?

The answer to this is, by observing a principle: the principle to 'Let Go off'.

Let go off negativity, blaming others, seeking approval, limiting self-belief, putting effort to impress others and complaining. A simple expression of appreciation unravels the tangles of complexities and help us lead a better life.

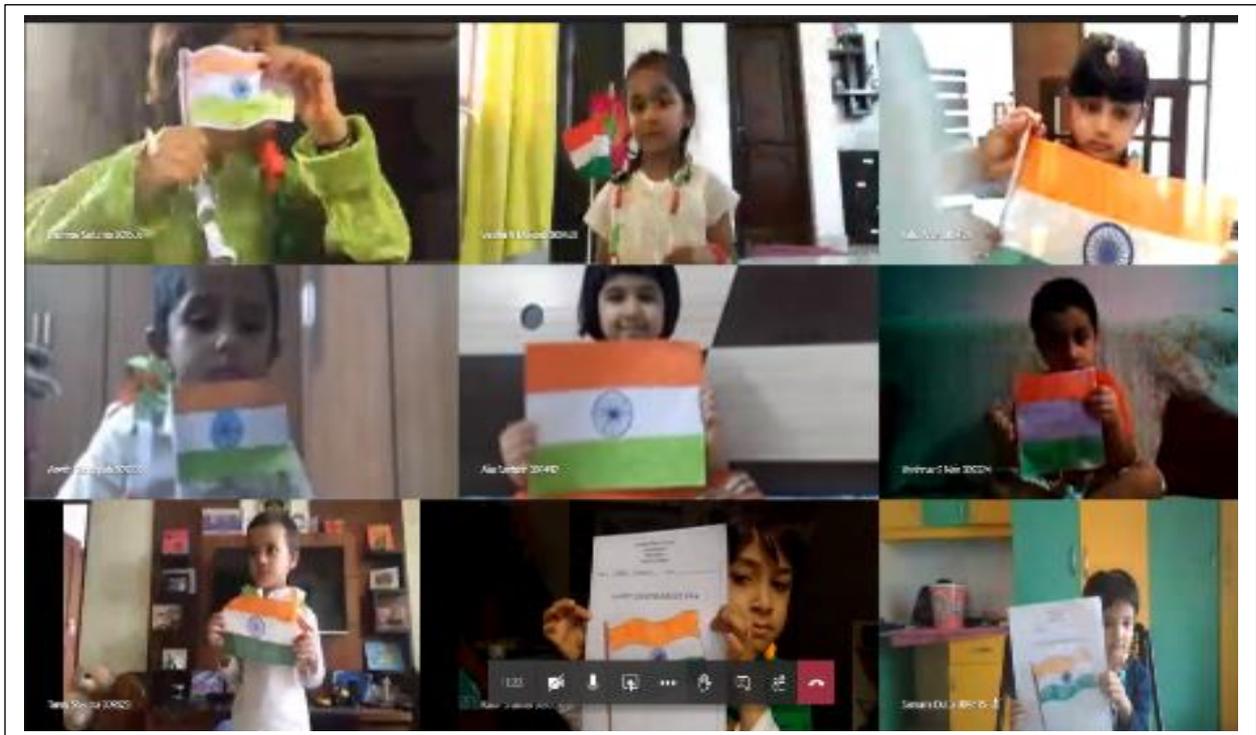
Here is a tale of a nonagenarian who, after being admitted to a hospital was asked to shell thousands for using ventilator. Tears welled up in his eyes. On being asked if he was unable to bear the ventilator expense, he winced and replied, "I had been inhaling the air for free from past ninety years. The



Elina as Former PM Indira Gandhi

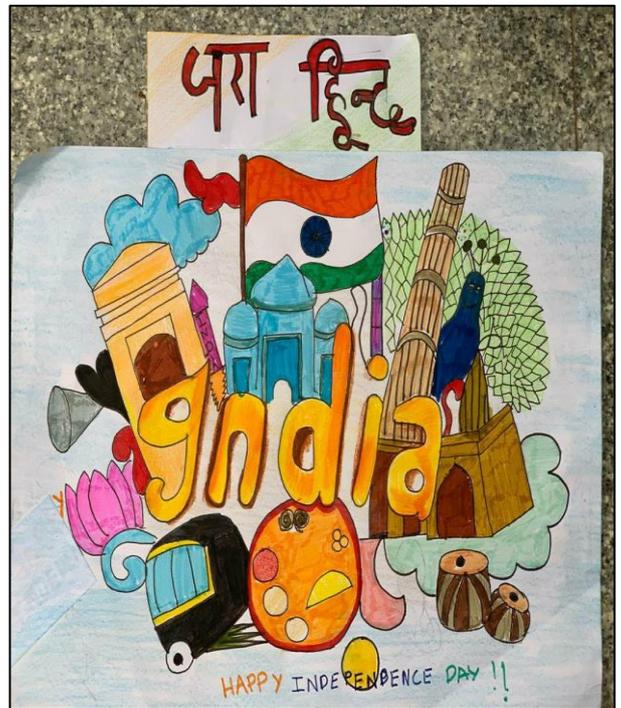


Aadhav as Mahatma Gandhi





**Badida Ram Havish 4B**



**H. R Gowri 5 B**



**Maitrayee Kundu 7A**



**Samarth Umashankar 7A**

Dear readers, that is all for now. We wish our dear students all the very best for their Semester 1 exam and a very happy Dussehra to all of you!

Compiled by Ms. Geeta Kathait and Ms. Prathima with inputs from students and teachers.  
Designed by Ms. Anupama Rao.