

# GRACE TRACK



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*Acquire Knowledge Walk Worthy*



“Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this”

Psalms 37:4-5

Foreword...

Things were coming back to normal in March, after a year, and the students, as well as the teachers, were quite enthusiastic to get back to the school campus. And we did, only for a few weeks, and then, again all were back to online teaching mode which continued for the next 5 months. Unlike last year, this year everyone was more confident and prepared to venture into using other platforms to make the classes more interesting. The journey of teaching and learning moved on and with that student got the opportunity to participate in several programs, activities, and competitions which were all organized online, efficiently. Looking forward to students being fully on campus, which would of course be a challenge. However, we believe these eighteen months have channelled us to experiment with technology which has proven to be a blessing in disguise! We, at Grace, thank God for his unfailing love and faithfulness towards the institution and everyone associated with it.

“Life is like riding a bicycle. to keep your balance, you must keep moving.”

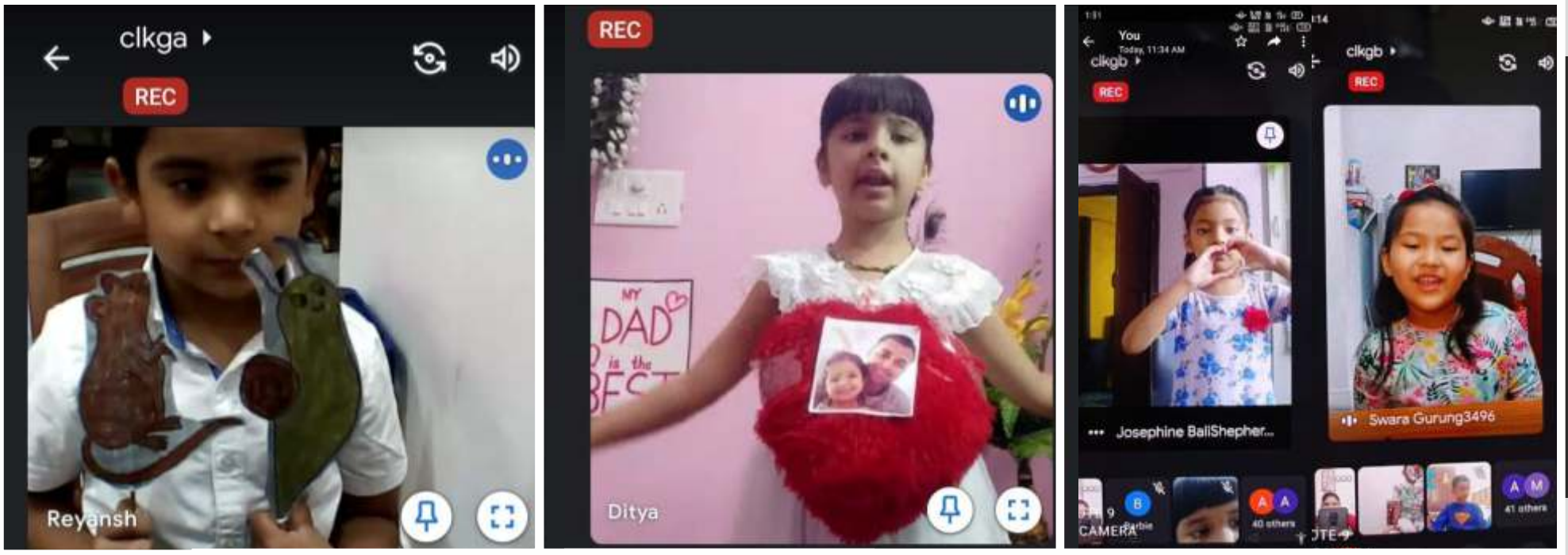
# Primary School Activities

- The second **Virtual Art Competition** for Classes Nursery – II was held on 16 July 2021. Children participated actively with great enthusiasm and showcased their talent. The artists were impressive in showing their creativity. It was truly a memorable moment watching them engrossed in their work. The finished products were amazing.



“Art speaks where words are unable to explain”

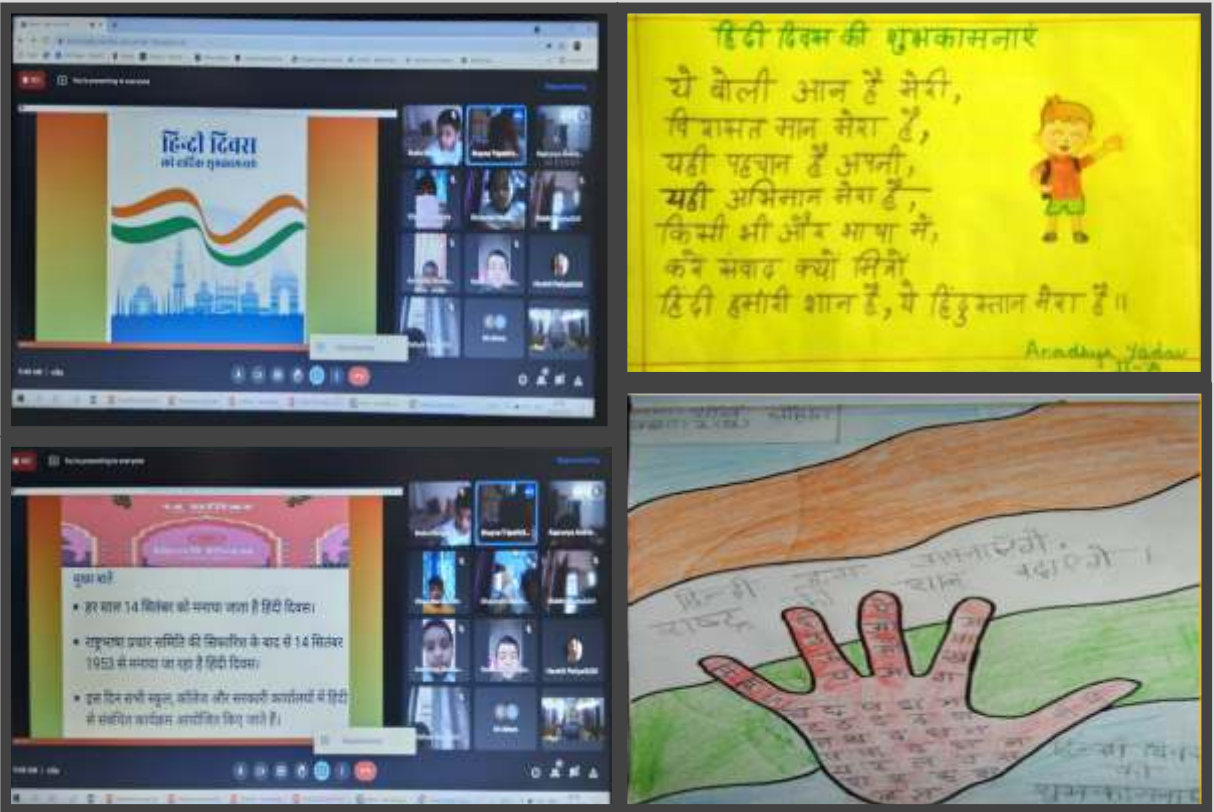
- English Recitation Presentation was organized for Pre-Primary School on 6 August.16 students from each class, participated in this presentation and were divided into four groups. Each group was given a different Poem to recite which they did quite well. Parents took initiative to prepare their children with impressive props and backgrounds. It was a splendid opportunity for participants to gain confidence.





- Hindi was adopted as the official language of the country on September 14, 1949. Among all the languages, it is considered the chief as well as the most widely spoken language in India. Since then, September 14 is celebrated as Hindi Diwas. In today’s highly commercialized environment, where people are forgetting their roots, Hindi Diwas plays a significant role. On this occasion, the Primary Section organized a Virtual Activity to mark the importance of our National Language. Students were asked to draw a related picture, make a card and write poems or a paragraph.

*“Our language is the reflection of ourselves; the dress of thoughts”*



- On 6 September 2021, the students of classes KG and I were told about the **importance of plants**, how plants work in cleaning the air, and giving oxygen for us to breathe. The children were encouraged to plant a sapling and take care of it till it grows into a strong plant or tree in their kitchen garden or a pot. It was amazing to see the children enthusiastically taking part in the plantation activity.



- The **Annual English Elocution** competition was organized virtually for classes III-V, this academic session of 2021-22. The coordinators for the activity were Mrs. E. Jacob, Mrs. Renuka Singh, and Mrs. Akriti Gupta. There were 8 participants selected from each section of classes III to V (two from each house). Each house was given a poem different from that of the other houses. The judges for the competition were the teachers on duty and the discipline in-charges. Many new students actively participated in the competition, exhibiting confidence. The participants added life to the words of poems by using various colourful props and dressing up according to the requirements of the poems. To sum it up, the competition was a real treat to the audience in terms of rhythm and variety.

*“Poetry is plucking at the heartstrings and making music with them”*





• An activity on Personal Hygiene was conducted for classes Nursery to II. With the help of PowerPoint presentation and a Video the children were taught how to keep themselves neat and tidy and were also taught how they can help their parents and other family members in keeping their house clean.



• On 8th Sept children were made aware of the need for proper hand wash in daily life. They were taught how to wash hands properly. Students were made aware of checking wastage of water, water-borne diseases, and safe handling of water. The students made posters and even recorded videos showing their practice of cleaning their homes and surroundings. In conclusion, it was a wonderful week. It certainly encouraged each child and even us to understand the importance of a Swatchh Bharat and how each one can contribute in making our country a better and a progressive nation.

*“The time to clean our city  
of any dirt begins with individual action  
for collective clean communities”*



• The students of Class-I enthusiastically participated in the Activity on Indian Freedom Struggle. They were asked to draw or take out a printout and colour, write 2-3 sentences about the event. They learned about our great freedom fighters that played a very important role in making our country independent from the slavery of the British.

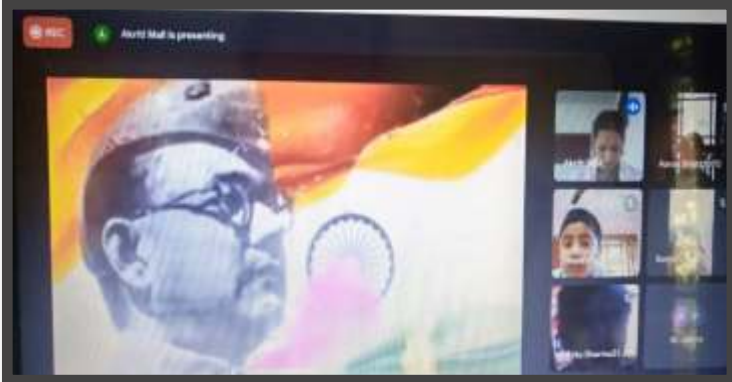


• An activity was organised on the 14 of October, in which a few grandparents of class II students shared their experiences of the freedom-struggle, which drew children’s attention and caused excitement among the students. It was amazing to hear of the past experiences of the grandparents.

*“The great revolution in the history of man, past, present, and  
future, is the revolution of those determined to be free.”*

• On 25 October 2021, a speech activity was held for students of class III. The teacher played the song 'Kadam Kadam Badhaye Ja' and shared from the life of the great freedom fighter Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and his contribution in the freedom-struggle. Some of his famous slogans too were shared with the students. It was good to see the students take initiative and to speak about Netaji's life.

*“Never stop learning,  
because life never stops teaching”*





- Inter House **Hindi Elocution** was held online on 13, August 2021 for the students in the Primary Section. Students participated enthusiastically in the competition as they got an opportunity to exhibit their talent. The competition inspired the young poets to come forward with different poems and recite their poems with great fondness and zeal. They exhibited the perfection of expression, thoughts, emotions, rhythm, and music of words. The participants from the four houses (SATYAM, SNEHA, SAHAS, and SATYA) left no stone unturned to win for their house. The judges appreciated and applauded the performances of the participants and were delighted after seeing their pleasing performances.



## Senior School Activities

- Spell bee** was organized for classes VI to VIII in August. It was divided into three rounds. The first was the qualifying round held in each class. The students participated in it enthusiastically. Many qualified for the next round. It was a mixed response from the students but no doubt it helped them to work on their spellings. In all, it was a good competition to be held regularly as an activity in class in the form of jumbled words, crossword puzzles, and pictures, so that the students develop a flair for it.



- Speaking skills for first term for class IX was an interview activity where the students were to interview their parents and prepare a short video. They did a good job and briefly presented it in class.

*“The success of your presentation will be judged not by the knowledge you share but by what the listener receives.”*

- As part of Speaking Skill, students of classes XI & XII were given to prepare a presentation with voice-over recording on Product Advertisement and a Travel Brochure, respectively. The students used their imagination and exhibited their creative skills.

*“Creativity is the natural extension of our enthusiasm.”*

- Ridhima Gupta of class VI represented Uttarakhand at National Reading Awareness, organized by Vikram Sarabhai Institute of Science, in June.

- The Inter-house Speech Competition was organized for classes IX & X on the 25 of September 2021. The themes were given to the students beforehand to work on and prepare. The themes for both Classes were: Class IX- Famous Speeches of Freedom-Fighters in World History. Class X had to choose any one of the three:

A. India at the Olympics B. Our earth... dying.....C. Need for promoting tolerance, inclusive development, and respect for diversity. The Judges for the competition were Mrs. Anjna Jaideep (Senior English Teacher), Mrs. Hannah Masih (Senior Sociology Teacher) & Mrs. Akriti Mall Gupta (Primary school Teacher). The students delivered their speeches with clarity and confidence. It was encouraging to see active participation from students and especially those who took a step of courage and participated for the first time. It was after many years that such a competition was conducted and as a school, it does add another feather to our cap!



The winners of the competition were: Class IX: Sarah Mukhtar Gania - First - Palak Dilawar, Second - Anna Shifa Fioly, Third -Mehak Dilawar  
Class X – First - Shreya Angel Mani, Second - Gauri Rawat, Third - Vedika Saklani.

*“Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships.”*

# Grace Foundation Day

Grace foundation day was celebrated online on 24 July 2021. It was a time to thank God for 31 years of his faithfulness towards our school. The program started with a word of prayer followed by praise and worship which was led by the staff choir. Mrs. L. Gergin, former coordinator for classes Nursery to II shared from the word of God on the motto 'Acquire knowledge walk worthy'. Mrs. Gergin said that acquiring knowledge is the easier part but walking worthy is difficult. It requires patience, hard work, and God’s help, constantly. Also, it is important that the foundation on which the house is built, is strong.

Mrs. Gergin encouraged students to use the best of material to build their life as it would be tested by the fires of this world, just as the theme of the program states: Guard the good deposit. The choreography was very well presented by the students.

Mrs. Neha Ramola, teacher and alumnus of Grace Academy shared her experience as a student many years back. She said she is privileged to teach in a place where she received her education. Aditya Issachar, a student of class XII said that he cherished the assembly time and enjoyed the games classes. Crispin Jonathan of class VI spoke about the school and its role in shaping the lives of students. It was followed by another choreography by students on the song 'If God is for us' which was sung by the school choir. Mrs. June Shepherd, a former staff reminisced the 10 years of her time at Grace talking about the early morning devotions, the birthday celebrations, prayer of thanksgiving after any event, Grace Community Day, staff retreat, and many more that are very close to her heart. Mrs. Meenu Dolly Singh, a former Hindi Teacher also shared about her experiences and said she enjoyed every part of it. Persis James [Batch 2004], Aman Peter [Batch 2010], and Jemimah Newton [Batch 2013] thanked the principal and teachers for their contribution in molding their lives which helped them to climb the ladder of success and depend on God for everything. A PowerPoint presentation on the journey of Grace Academy was showcased.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks by the principal, Mr. Benjamin Newton. He thanked the Board members, staff, and everyone else for their effort and hard work in helping the school grow in the last 31 years. He said we have inherited a rich legacy passed on by the founding Principal, Dr. David Foil, and Mrs. Foil who have laid a solid foundation of ethos, culture, and pursuit.

*“A solid foundation for children involves a solid moral base”*



Vote of Thanks Mr. Benjamin Newton (Principal)





# What's the News!

- The students were encouraged to take part in the YOUNG WARRIOR initiative started by the CBSE. A few students participated in this initiative. They were also informed about a FIT INDIA QUIZ which Mr. Maja Singh Kamei, physical instructor, coordinated.

***“Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment”***

- The Times of India Students Edition newspaper is being shared with students of classes VI to X in their classrooms. They are encouraged to read and enrich their vocabulary along with polish their GK. The students are showing interest in it.

***“How Much Knowledge You Gain Depends On Your Willingness To Learn.”***

- The students of classes XI and X were given a book to read in the summer vacations as pdf and audio. They were to read/listen and then attempt the activity based on it such as describing a character or changing the setting or the ending etc.

***“Reading is important because if you can read, you can learn anything about everything and everything about anything.”***

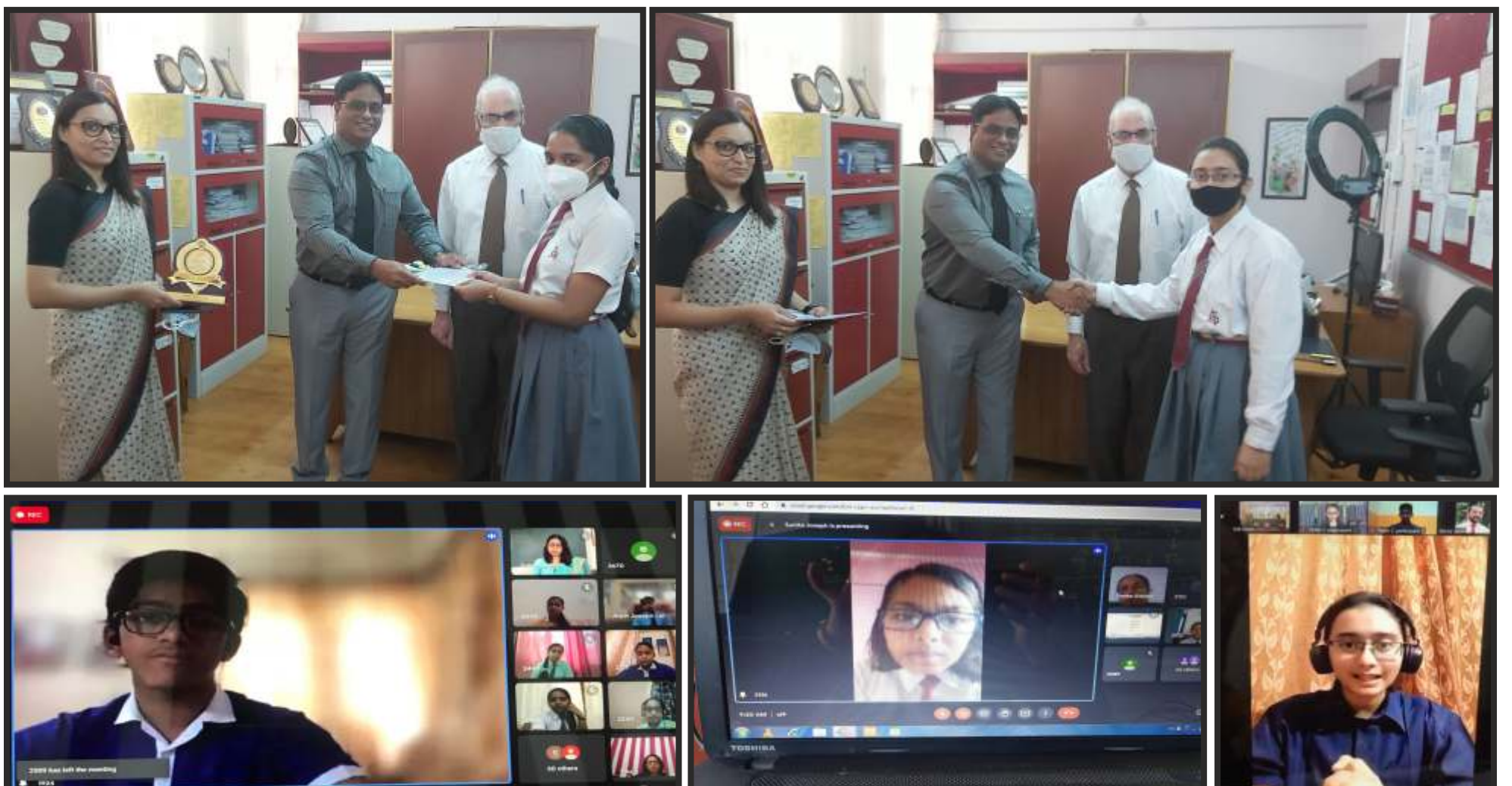
- An integrated activity project was organized for class X on a lesson about flying with regards to subject enrichment and art integration activity. It was integrated with sciences where students were divided into groups and were given topics to research on. They were quite excited about this activity and worked hard to meet the expectation of their peers.

***“Raise your words, not your voice, it is rain that grows flowers not thunder”***

- J. L. D’Souza Inter School debate, organized by St. Joseph’s Academy was held on 11 September. Three students, Gauri Singh, Anubhav Caleb, and Sam Mathew represented the school. Though they did not get any position, it was a good exposure for them.

***“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader.”***

- Students of Grace Academy had an opportunity to participate in the 4th Dr. George Chavanikamannil Inter school English debate organized by Krisht Jyoti Academy on 9 October 2021. A total of 8 schools participated in the event. Apart from the various branches of KJA, schools from Rudraprayag and Pathri, Shishya School & Touchwood School were some of the participating schools. Mehak Dilawar (CI XI) stood third and Vidushi Aswal (CI X) received a participating certificate. It was an achievement for both participants as this was the first Inter-School Event, they had participated in.





- The 75th **Independence Day** was celebrated on 15 August. The principal, Mr. Benjamin Newton unfurled the tricolor and delivered an inspiring speech highlighting the importance of our role as being God-fearing and responsible citizens of our country. Everyone prayed for the nation and its leadership and asked God to lead our nation on the path of righteousness.

*“Every citizen of india  
must remember  
that... he is an indian  
and he has every right  
in this country  
but with certain ...duties”*



- To raise environmental consciousness and instill sustainability-linked choices amongst youth, TERI undertakes several educational and awareness-building initiatives. GREEN Olympiad is a step in this direction, and since 1999 this initiative reaches out to over 2000 schools with a participation of approximately 2,00,000 students annually. The Olympiad is for students of Std. 4-12 from schools in India and abroad. Forty-five students from Grace Academy registered for the quiz which will be held in two rounds in November and December.
- Tiarenla of 6B received a medal and certificate of distinction for Zonal Rank-10 and also secured 75th rank in International Level of National Science Olympiad.

*“Learning is not attained by chance;  
it must be sought for with ardor  
and attended to with diligence”*

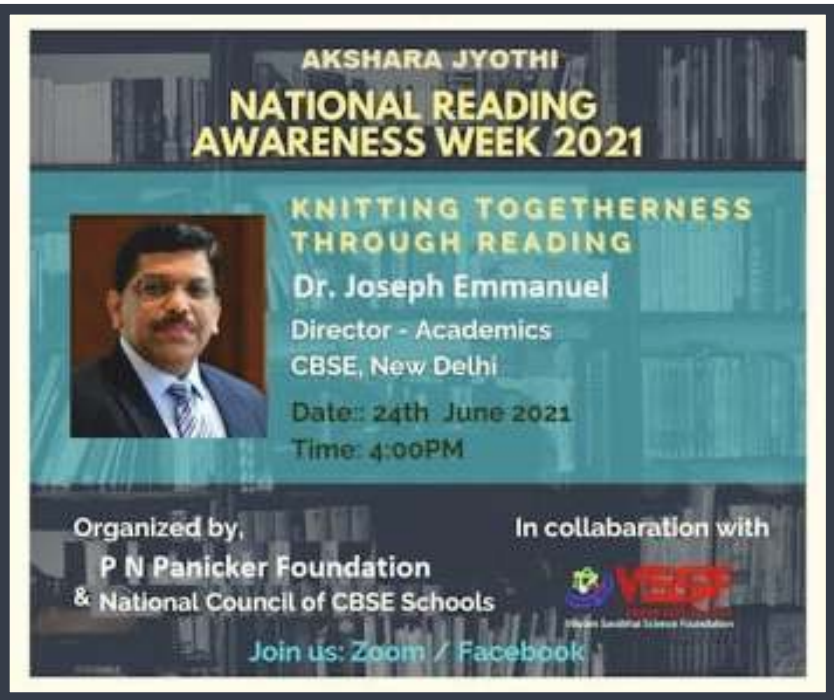
Anirudh Judd of 8A received a Certificate of Participation in Chitram, a painting competition organized by the CBSE.



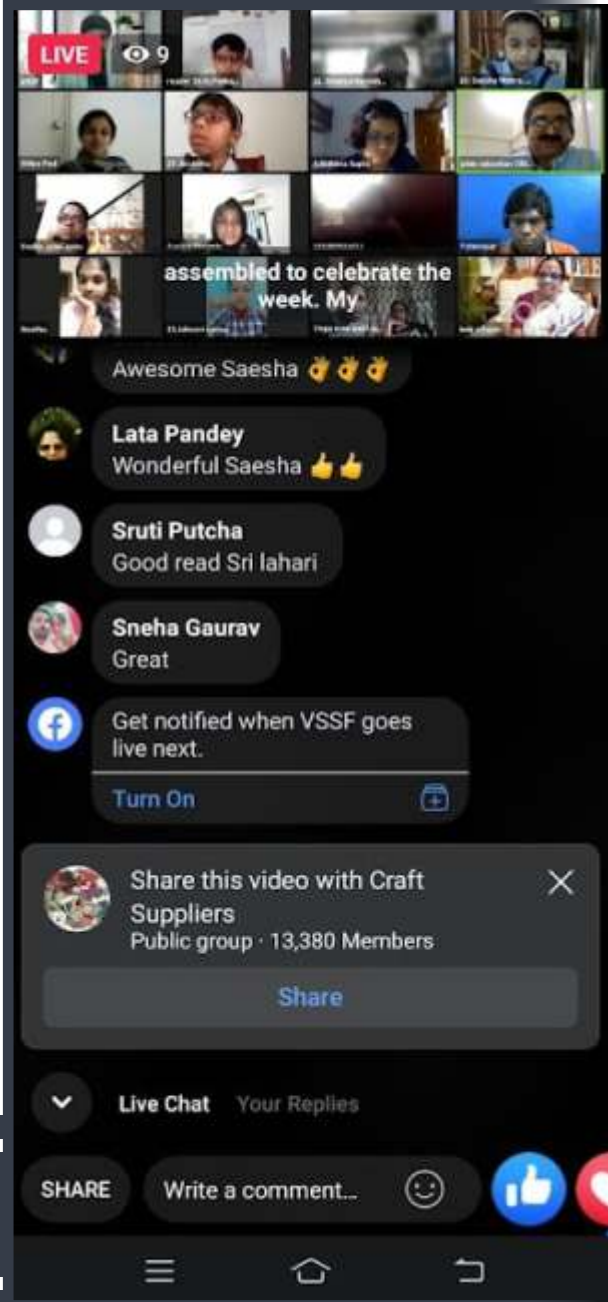


- Students were encouraged to share or offer a nutritious meal with at least one child from the underprivileged sections of the society, living in their neighbourhood. This would not only help the child understand the nutritional levels in the society, but also imbibe a sense of social responsibility, inclusion, and volunteerism. Keeping this in mind Rashtriya Poshan Abhiyan was organized for students, an initiative by the CBSE. The importance of healthy food habits was discussed with students also highlighting the harmful effect of unhealthy food consumption.

“Your diet is a bank account. good food choices are good investments”



- The 26th National Reading Day was celebrated on 19 June 2021. Honouring the father of the Library Movement, the late P. N. Panicker. Starting as a Reading Day Celebration on 19 June 1996, it has become a mass movement to promote the culture of reading. The Hon’ble Prime Minister launched the 22nd National Reading Month Celebrations and gave a clarion call to propagate the message of ‘Read and Grow’



among all the citizens of the country by 2022.  
Ridhima Gupta-Class VI represented GRACE ACADEMY and Uttarakhand in the National Reading Awareness Week organised by VSSF - Vikram Sarabhai Science Foundation since she is part of their Club. She had also attended their summer camp for STEM, Science & astronomy this month. She read from the book - The Blue Umbrella.

“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body”



- Recognizing the vital role of the schools in spreading the awareness about Swachhata Mission and its implementation across the country, the schools observed Swachhata Pakhwada from 1 to 15 September 2021 by organizing various activities in which students participated enthusiastically. A cleanliness drive to clean their homes and surroundings was initiated for students as they made short videos while carrying out these activities.

*“Cleanliness and order are not matters of instinct; they are matters of education, and like most great things, you must cultivate a taste for them”*



## **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav: Drive-by CBSE.**

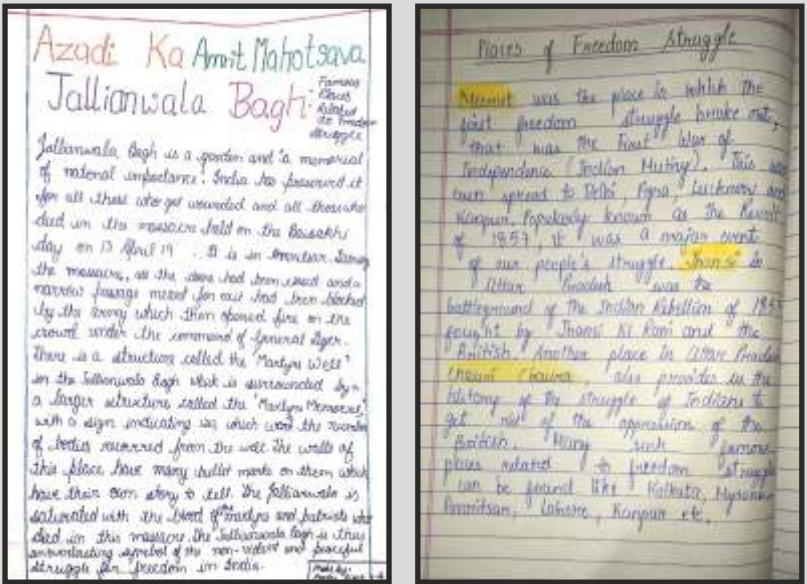
**A several activities were organised each month from August onwards in every class on this theme.**

- The "Poster Competition" for class XI was held on 16 September 2021. Students participated enthusiastically and with zeal. The time allotted to the students was 1 hour. The Competition began with a word of Prayer by Mr. Andriyas Singh (Vice-Principal). It allowed the students to showcase their creative and vibrant ideas and they did an excellent job. The Judges for the competition were Mrs. Manju Topno, Ms. Anvita Williams, and Ms. Shalini Singh. The First position was secured by Adina Jamir (9A), Akshita Rawat (9B), and Anna Shifa Fiol (9C). The Second position was taken by Jerusha Singh (9A), Alok Kasaudhan (9B), and Kanishka Pundir (9C) followed by Samridhi Bammi (9A), Mehek Dilawar (9B), and Pratyaksh Bisht (9C) for the Third position. Ms. Shefali Bahadur (Coordinator 9-10) commended the work of the students and congratulated them for their incredible performance.





- Students of class VIII got involved in a paragraph writing activity about places related to the freedom struggle. They were quite creative and added colour to it by adding past and present pictures of the place. (e.g.-Jhansi, Delhi, Meerut, Champaran, Calcutta, Jallianwala Bagh (Amritsar), Dandi, Surat, etc.) Few of them presented their work in class.



- In classes XI and XII students worked on digital posters & digital collage on the theme: 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. Quite a few students showcased their talent by designing eye-catching posters.
- In the senior school, famous speeches of freedom fighters were delivered in class as a tribute to them for their quest and zeal for a dream of free India. They were 'Freedom is my birth right' - Bal Gangadhar Tilak, 'A Tryst with Destiny' – Jawaharlal Nehru, 'Give me blood and I promise you freedom' - Subhash Chandra Bose and Mahatma Gandhi's speech on the launch Quit India movement. A few students recited patriotic poems like 'Where the mind is without fear' by Rabindranath Tagore, 'A Nation's Strength' by Ralph Emerson and 'I am a Soldier'.



“May we think of freedom not as the right to do what we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right”

- Buddy Group** is an initiative that is started by the school in classes for new students to adjust to the school environment. The class teacher helps and guides these students along with some old students by monitoring their conversations and seeing that their chats are respectful and friendly. The students were excited to talk to their new friends. The children who had joined last year too were a part of it.

The new students introduced themselves and shared about their previous schools, hobbies, families, etc. Initially, the students were hesitant but later they seemed comfortable.

“Things become easy and possible when you have the right people to support you”



- The **Guidance Counsellor**, Mrs. Sudeepta Newton helped and guided students of classes XI and XII to plan their higher education journey during these unprecedented times. The counselling department organized presentations and seminars to motivate the students during these times.
- ★ The students sought help in areas of Counselling (personal & academic), Preparing Student Academic Portfolio (CV), Career Counselling, Occupational information, Career Assessment, and Personality assessment & development. Their queries were taken up by the counselor.
- ★ Information about Admissions & Scholarships available in USA and Canada was also posted in the Guidance Counselling classroom.
- ★ A presentation on Profile Building was also shared with students. They were encouraged to go through it and begin their work which would help them in the future for college admissions.
- ★ Students of classes IX-XII were asked to register on the CBSE Career Guidance portal which would be very helpful and was also encouraged to take maximum benefit from it. This portal provides information about careers, college directories, scholarships, and competitive entrance examinations.

*“Ability is what you’re capable of doing. motivation determines what you do. attitude determines how well you do it.”*



It is a joy to see the students grow in knowledge and stature as the years roll by. We thank God for his guidance and wisdom to carry on our work to the best of our ability, to date, this year. Thanks to the staff and students who contributed towards the news track in any capacity.

*“The wonder of teaching is watching caterpillars become butterflies”*



**Grace Track Committee:**  
Mr. B. Newton, Mr. A. Singh, Mrs. S. Ranjan, Mrs. E. Jacob  
Mrs. D. Dayal, Mrs. A. Joel, Mrs. A. Jaideep & Mr. V. Mani

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