

SCRIBBLE

The CBSE English Newsletter

Issue 13





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Editors' Notes



Ivana Sajjanhar | Senior Editor

Dear Readers,

As the holiday season is upon us, I wish everyone happiness & quality time with friends and family. This issue is full of the spirit of the season, delightful poetry, and exciting adventurous tales to help brighten winter days. So, enjoy the gift of giving, and celebrate traditions.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our team. This issue would be impossible without their hard work and dedication and to Alvina for always being so supportive.
Happy reading!



Alvina Akhlaq | Junior Editor

Hi Readers (yes, its me again),

Welcome to the latest edition of Scribble, your perfect excuse to procrastinate on your homework, perhaps, resting in that bag. This time we have some amazing write ups (DO NOT MISS MINE on page no20), brain busting puzzles and some inspiring laurels.

The team has worked very hard to present you with this, and obviously I would like to thank the senior editor for making sure that we don't miss the dead lines (because trust me, getting me to work is a tedious job).To conclude, I hope you have a good time reading this. You are always free to approach me in school and give your inputs about the newsletter

Thank you so much, because if you read this note all the way to the end, you my friend have earned my respect.

Meet the Team

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Fireworks & Festivities

The Wintertime Gala

By: Ghhanali Singh

India is a fountain full of joyful and exuberant merrymaking. It offers a smorgasbord of lively, colourful, and bright festivals—a time for everyone to put aside their differences and get rid of their problems, just to come together and celebrate. All year round, the calendar is dotted with vivacious and vibrant occasions.



Whether it is Holi in the spring or Baisakhi in the summer, the festivals create a stir in the public—a stir of electric fascination and wonder. Contrary to the widely held belief that wintertime is the duller and most depressing part of the year, it is one of the brightest times on the calendar. The darkness of the season is lit up by warm lights from the diya,

and the skies by colourful firecrackers. In fact, one of the most popular Indian festivals is held during the winter months, namely Diwali—the festival of lights. The light of the firecrackers begins at the start of Navaratri. From there, it travels along a combustible rope to light the final merry explosion that is Diwali. This is followed by small,

and yet noteworthy sparks of Bhai Dooj and Govardhan Puja.

The name itself gives us an idea of the festival of Navaratri. The word "Navaratri" consists of Nava, meaning 'nine,' and Ratri, meaning 'night.' It is an annual Hindu festival in honour of the goddess Durga, an aspect of the supreme goddess Adi Shakti.



It occurs in the month of Ashwin, September-October in the Gregorian calendar. The festival is celebrated with great pomp and splendour across the country with varied traditions everywhere. For some, it is a time of feasting. People avoid garlic and onion, in addition to switching to a strict vegetarian diet. They also abstain from alcohol. Garba is a dance performed predominantly in Gujarat during the nine nights of Navaratri. It is performed in a constantly moving circular formation, around an image of the Mother Goddess, and symbolizes her creative energy. Women are the typical performers of Garba, but men may also take part occasionally.



Events related to Garba or Dandiya are held largely in societies and schools. It offers a terrific opportunity for people to come together and interact socially. Throughout the festival, offerings are made, and rituals are carried out in honour of the goddess.

One of the most popular rituals is Kanya Puja, which takes place on the eighth or ninth day of the festival. In this ritual, nine young girls are dressed as the nine goddesses celebrated during Navaratri and are worshipped with ritual foot washing and given offerings like food and clothing. On this day, a commonly made dish is Puri, along with black Chana, which is topped off with sweet Suji ka halwa.

In Bengal and Assam, the festival coincides with an occasion known as Durga Puja. Images of Durga celebrating her victory over the buffalo-headed demon Mahishasura are worshipped throughout the festival, and they are taken in a jubilant procession to be immersed in nearby rivers or reservoirs on the tenth day. The tenth day of the festival is known as Dussehra or Vijayadashami, meaning 'The Day of Victory.' In many regions, it is combined with the nine nights of Navaratri and is celebrated as a whole.

Apart from celebrating the goddess's victory over Mahishasura, Navaratri also

celebrates the nine forms of Durga and the victory of the Indian epic hero, Ram, over the notorious Ravana. We are all aware of the 10-headed intellectual asura, Ravana. The story of his defeat is meticulously detailed in the Ramayana. The tenth day of Navaratri marks the day the world was rid of the demon Ravana. However, some view this differently, feeling that the world lost one of the wisest beings that ever existed. Did you know Ravana was well-versed in the Vedas and Shastras? He was said to have mastered 64 distinct kinds of knowledge, apart from being a capable ruler. He is the author of Ravana Samhita, a book on Hindu astrology, and the Arka Prakasam, a book on Siddha medicine and treatment. He was a celebrated devotee of Lord Shiva and wrote the famous Shiv Tandav.

He was proficient with the veena, a stringed instrument. Ravana was knowledgeable in architecture, scriptures, astrology, political science,

and weaponry. His ten heads represent the six Shastras and the four Vedas. Recognizing his wisdom, Lord Rama instructed his brother Laxman to sit beside Ravana and learn about statecraft and diplomacy from him during his final moments. When viewed this way, it is disheartening to contemplate the loss of such a brilliant scholar.

On Dussehra, a large model of Ravana is created and filled with fireworks. It is set ablaze during a ritual known as Ravana Dahan, watched by young and old alike in awe. People associate the fire with the burning away of their bad deeds and vices, and they pray for knowledge in the arts.

Another reason for the celebration of Navaratri is the honouring of Durga's nine avatars:

- Shailputri (embodies the Shringara Rasa) – The young princess who climbed Kailash Parvat to see Lord Shiva.
- Brahmacharini (embodies the Shanta Rasa) – The lady who underwent years of penance to catch Lord Shiva's attention.
- Chandraghanta (embodies the Bhayanaka Rasa) – The angry form of the goddess when she saw Shiva's casual appearance at their wedding.
- Kushmanda (embodies the Hasya Rasa) – The goddess whose smile is said to have lit up the Sun and created the universe.
- Skandamata (embodies the Veera Rasa) – The proud mother of the warrior Kartikeya.
- Katyayani (embodies the Raudra Rasa) – The warrior goddess who slayed Mahishasura.
- Kaalratri (embodies the Vibhatsa Rasa) – The goddess who slayed the demon Rakta Beej with her wit.
- Mahagauri (embodies the Karuna Rasa) – The beautiful and peaceful goddess.
- Siddhi Datri (embodies the Adbhuta Rasa) – The fulfiller of wishes and the grantor of siddhis.

Navaratri and Dussehra are celebrated in diverse ways throughout the country.

In Telangana and some regions of Andhra Pradesh, Bathukamma Panduga (Bathukamma Festival) is celebrated during Navaratri. In Telugu, the word Bathukamma means “Mother Goddess, come alive!” The goddess Saraswati is also celebrated for her connection with creativity. After all, she is the goddess of knowledge, learning, wisdom, arts, and music. On the ninth day, people in South India perform Saraswati Puja, placing books, writing tools, art materials, musical instruments, tools, or weapons in front of an idol or image of Saraswati for her blessings.

In Delhi, Varanasi, and other North Indian regions, a folk drama called Ramlila is performed during Navaratri. People act out the Ramayana, dressed as the epic’s characters. Kota, in Rajasthan, celebrates Rama’s victory by burning effigies of Ravana and his brothers Meghnad and Kumbhakaran. For 25 days after the festival, crowds flock to the Kota Dussehra Mela, the longest Dussehra fair in India. Competitions such as turban draping and moustache grooming take place. In Punjab and Haryana, men from the Laiya community don 20 kg heavy Hanuman costumes and dance as Ravana’s effigy crumbles on the tenth day. In Karnataka, a parade of ten mantapas (floats) makes up the main event of Madikeri Dasara. In Bangalore, young boys and men paint their faces and bodies to look like tigers and perform dances as a tribute to the goddess’s vahana, the tiger.



Such unique ways of celebrating festivals across the nation are what make India the colourful tapestry of joy that it is. Moreover, they highlight the amazing wintertime gala that people across the country enjoy—not as individuals, but together as a whole.



DIWALI

The Festival of Lights

Pinpointing the exact origins of Diwali is a challenge. Besides the association with the victory of good over evil and light over darkness, Diwali has no single origin story. Instead, many myths, legends, and religious texts are linked to the festival. The term “Diwali” finds its origins in the Sanskrit word “deepawali,” which means “row of lights” with “deep” meaning light and “avali” translated to mean a row.

People cover streets and buildings in festive lighting, and there are lively songs and dances. Dazzling fireworks go off, creating a spectacle of noise and light. This helps to scare away evil spirits and celebrate the victory of good over evil. Across the many communities that observe Diwali, the festival is known as a festival of lights.

While Diwali is primarily associated with Hinduism, it is also celebrated by Jains, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Muslims. People also celebrate the Hindu Goddess Lakshmi during Diwali. As the goddess of prosperity, wealth, and fertility, the romantic Diwali story says that she chose Lord Vishnu, one of Hinduism’s most important deities, to be her husband on the night of Diwali.

The celebrations also differ depending on regional geography and one's cultural background and religious beliefs. Nonetheless, there are common roots to the festival. The date for the festival of Diwali is never fixed; it changes every year. The five-day celebration is observed every year in early autumn after the conclusion of the summer harvest. It coincides with the new moon (amāvasyā) and is deemed the darkest night of the Hindu lunisolar calendar. The festivities begin two days before amāvasyā, on Dhanteras, and extend two days after, until the second (or 17th) day of the month of Kartik. According to Indologist Constance Jones, this night ends the lunar month of Ashwin and starts the month of Kartik.



Photo Credits: Chaitanya Goyal

By: Shreya Batra

November:

The Academic Writing Month

What happens when November rolls around?

Academic writers, researchers, and students throughout the world are inspired to write more when November rolls around thanks to Academic Writing Month (#AcWriMo). This month-long challenge pushes participants to overcome the obstacles of academic writing, establish high standards, and concentrate on their writing assignments. #AcWriMo is about developing discipline, encouraging creativity, and achieving genuine academic progress! It's not simply about quantity. Where it all started First known as "Academic Book Writing Month," Academic Writing Month was founded in 2011 by art historian Dr. Charlotte Frost. She wanted to work on her writing endeavor without feeling as alone as possible. Maybe she was also suffering from the "long-term project blues." Frost came up with the notion of assembling a team of academics who would each be working on a different project while simultaneously attempting to accomplish their designated aims.

Why November?

Originating from the idea of National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo), where writers challenge themselves to produce 50,000 words in a month, #AcWriMo applies the same concept to academic work. November serves as a perfect opportunity to focus on writing academic



papers, articles, theses, or even polishing up projects that have been lingering for too long.

Setting Goals:

The spirit of #AcWriMo is not just about churning out words but setting personalized goals. Whether it's committing to writing for 30 minutes daily, finishing a research paper, or drafting sections of a thesis, the challenge pushes participants to be disciplined and consistent. The goals are flexible and cater to all writing levels, encouraging both experienced and new writers.

The Benefits:

- **Increased Productivity:** The structured approach of #AcWriMo helps writers break down their tasks and make steady progress over the month.
- **Collaboration and Support:** Online communities like Twitter or writing groups form during #AcWriMo, providing motivation, sharing resources, and even offering peer feedback.

- Skill Development: Engaging in academic writing regularly helps sharpen critical thinking and writing skills, essential for any field.

How to Get Started:

To join Academic Writing Month, all one needs to do is set clear writing goals and commit to them. Whether you're a student working on an assignment, a researcher finishing a paper, or someone in the middle of their dissertation, AcWriMo offers the perfect framework to stay focused.

November may be cold, but your academic writing can be on fire!



By: Zyam Haider Jafri



Submissions

The Great Chase

Chapter 2: The Great Chase

As Lady Blackwood fled through the twisting streets of London, the chase was on. Henry, Amelia's loyal companion joined the pursuit, his eyes gleaming with determination as they navigated the crowded alleys and bustling markets.

"Come on, mates! Let's give this bird what for!" Henry exclaimed, urging them forward.

"We won't rest until she's behind bars, Henry. I swear it," Amelia vowed.

Their trio ventured into the seedy underbelly of the city, where shadows concealed unknown dangers at every turn. Racing through the streets, Amelia couldn't shake the nagging feeling of unease that hovered over them. But she was willing to risk everything to ensure justice was served.



By: Karieshma Mathur



Someone Like Me

When I look in the mirror, I wonder
to myself....
How would anyone want someone
like me?
My words are like sharp knives,
blades that pierce through the
thickest of armour.
I can only watch as the faces of
those around me,
fall when the words leave my
mouth.



how could anyone love a person like me?
My skin littered in marks and scars,

the weight that clings to me is sickening.
I can imagine the way their faces would look
as they recoil in disgust when they see me bare,
every flaw too obvious to overlook,
every imperfection is too hideous to ignore.
I no longer recognize the person in the mirror.
Instead, it is a beast that stares back at me.

I am accustomed to these feelings of self-loathing.
The once frightening thoughts dulled to a
mere whisper, always present, unceasing.
But then..... then there you were.
You, the very picture of beauty and perfection,
wrecking my world with every word you spoke.
When you told me you heard them too,

my heart shattered, it clenched and wept.
Broken at the thought of you feeling the way I did.
I could only stare, searching for something, anything,
wishing I could ease your pain.
Rid you of the same thoughts that plagued me for years,
But I couldn't, I couldn't.....

All I have are words.
Words that I myself do not believe.
Words that I know will not break past
those dark voices,
Words that cannot heal the wounds
caused by them.
But all I can say is this -
Maybe someone will want and love us.
Someone who will see past the words
and the scars.
We are allowed to hope,
so please... do not stop hoping.
Do not stop loving.
Because we all have flaws,
and that's perfectly alright...

Helpless as I begin to see them drift
away,
a chasm I am assured time and time
again doesn't exist,
yet my mind and body fear it immensely.
Nothing but a torment of my own
making,
yet it seems more real than anything
else
When I look in the mirror, I wonder to
myself,

By: Tanya Rebecca



Scoop Whoop



Knowledge Conclave

Navya Aggarwal

At the recently held Knowledge Conclave, students from our school joined together to celebrate and explore the wonderful things about the Spanish, German, and French languages. Throughout the event, a variety of activities were held to engage participants in order to increase their knowledge about different language cultures.

Every linguistic group had their own unique events, like painting competitions and speech recitation competitions. The stunning artwork on display in the Spanish area highlighted the diverse cultural background of the countries that spoke Spanish. The pupils' artistic pieces were both visually stunning and culturally significant, demonstrating their artistic prowess. The highlight of the German section was a speech recitation competition in which competitors had to give persuasive speeches in German which highlighted Germany's culture. Both public speaking and language proficiency were tested, and our school won, obtaining first place. Our speakers' ability to attract the audience, along with their fluidity, was highly praised in the triumphant performance. In addition, students of the German segment participated in an art competition where they had two hours to create beautiful drawings of things related to Germany and its culture. In this competition, our school obtained second place.



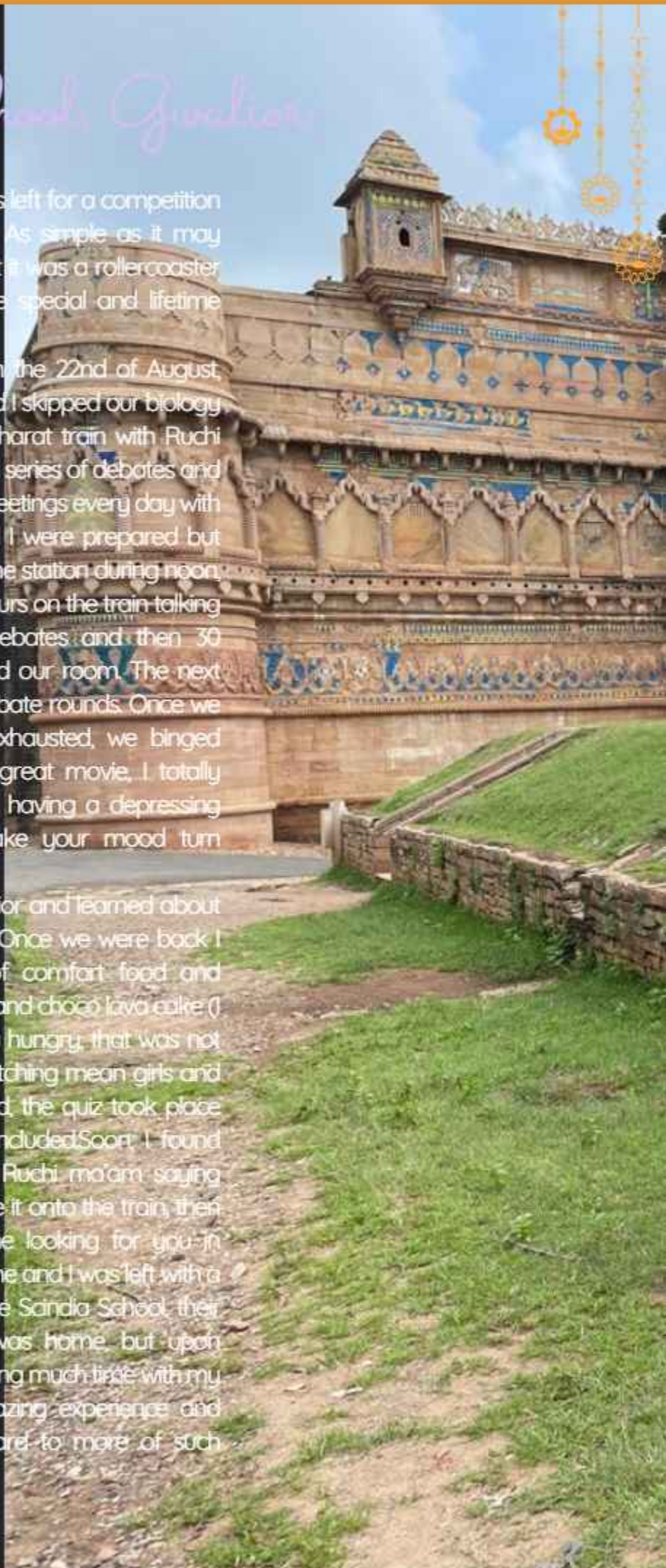
In the French section the various entertaining activities broadened the students' understanding of France and its culture. This concluded the knowledge conclave successfully, leaving all the participants with a bright understanding of different cultures and their languages. I am really looking forward to the next one!

At Scindia School, Gwalior

On 23rd August, five of our Genesians left for a competition held at the Scindia School, Gwalior. As simple as it may sound, I assure you it was not. In fact it was a rollercoaster journey which allowed me to make special and lifetime bonds.

Let me start from the beginning, on the 22nd of August, Ivana, Navya, Deepank, Bhavisya and I skipped our biology lessons, hopped on to the Vande Bharat train with Ruchi Arya ma'am and were onboard for a series of debates and quizzes. After weeks of 3 hour long meetings every day with our senior (Aditi didi), my team and I were prepared but very anxious. Now, after 2 hours on the station during noon, a tiffin box full of chicken biryani, 4 hours on the train talking about absolutely everything but debates and then 30 minutes on a bus, we finally reached our room. The next morning on the 23rd, we had our debate rounds. Once we were back, we were completely exhausted, we binged watched movies (Sky is pink, is a great movie, I totally recommend it, especially if you are having a depressing evening, this movie is sure to make your mood turn around).

The following day we explored Gwalior and learned about its rich history and cultural heritage. Once we were back I came to realise the importance of comfort food and ordered myself some chicken wings and choc lava cake (I am sorry if this article is making you hungry, that was not my intention). That evening after watching mean girls and youtube shorts we slept. On the 23rd, the quiz took place and afterwards the competition concluded. Soon I found myself on the railway station with Ruchi ma'am saying "Guys, if by chance you do not make it onto the train, then don't run away, someone will come looking for you in around 6 hours". Finally, we were home and I was left with a bittersweet feeling. When I was in the Scindia School, their food and bed made me wish I was home, but upon reaching home I regretted not spending much time with my teammates. Overall, it was an amazing experience and learning, and I definitely look forward to more of such competitions in the future!





FAIR

By: Alvina Akhlag

LAGMA

A Celebration of Language and Culture

On August 7th, 2024, the Genesis students came together to celebrate Lagma, our vibrant language fest. This special event showcased the culture, significance, food, and games of three languages: French, German, and Spanish.

The French students transformed their classroom into an authentic bakery, featuring over 15 types of croissants, breads, macarons, and more. Their dedication created a delightful experience for all visitors. The German students added their unique touch with live performances, including the song "On écrit sur le mur" and "Der Papagei ein Vogel ist." These melodious tunes, though challenging to translate, left the audience spellbound.

Meanwhile, the Spanish room was a colourful mix of red and yellow, bursting with vibrant stalls, delicious food, and mesmerising art pieces. This colourful display offered visitors a fresh perspective on Spanish culture.

Both students and teachers poured immense effort into these presentations. From massive models of the Eiffel Tower to intricate replicas of a French café, and detailed posters on German and Spanish literature, every aspect was meticulously crafted.

By the end of the day, Lagma was a resounding success, enjoyed by both teachers and students alike. To learn a language is to open a new window through which to view the world. Though everything may remain the same, languages provide a completely new perspective. This fest allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of various cultures and the unique ways in which they perceive the world.



By - Alvina Akhlaq

Awards and Laurels



Team Genesis won the best School trophy at Quest MUN 2024 held at Blue Bells International school!

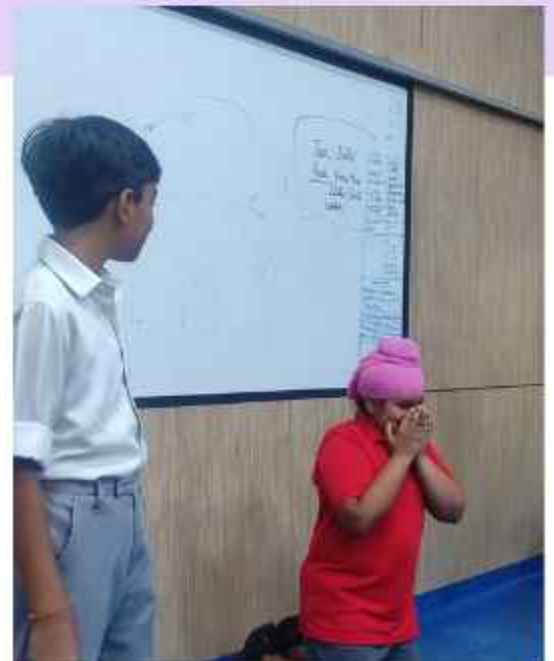


Wassup English?

Grade 6 Skit



Grade 6 Multiple Assessment Activity. Skit Presentation. The students presented different parts of the story- The Four Friends. This activity allowed them to express themselves in a creative way. It helped them to understand the value that the story taught and also let them work in a team.



Grade 10 Presentation

Glimpses of India

Our Grade 10 students recently conducted a dynamic and engaging presentation on the chapter Glimpses of India. Adopting a flipped classroom approach, they created informative PPTs and led sessions on various aspects of Indian culture and geography.

Highlights included:

- **Tea from Assam:** Students delved into the origins, significance, and evolution of Assam's world-renowned tea industry.
- **A Baker from Goa:** An insightful look into Goa's traditional baking culture, celebrating the heritage and unique techniques passed down through generations.
- **Coorg:** Presentations explored the scenic beauty, culture, and rich biodiversity of Coorg, showcasing it as a must-visit destination.

The session was a blend of cultural exploration and student-led learning, fostering both knowledge and presentation skills.





Fun Fizzies

Word Search



Festival

Lights

Fireworks

Lamps

Family

Sweets

Diya

Prayers

Gifts

Home

Rangoli

Celebrations

Note: Answers will be in the next issue

KNOCK ~
~ KNOCK



Thank you, Oh!
And Happy
Diwali!





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