



# Gyan Buzz...

April, May & June Vol. I, II & III

## DISCOVER THE joy OF LEARNING

### *From The Principal's Desk...*

Dear Readers,

This pandemic has changed everything that matters in our lives. It has impacted the way we live in a community to the way we learn and teach. The needs of yesterday and those of today are no longer the same. What is praiseworthy is the way our children have risen to the occasion and embraced the change! Teachers who have adapted to the new normal deserve commendation too! I join my editor, in pleading with the readers to remember that this period is also bringing out the best and worst in humans. Let us strive to give of our best and stretch ourselves to make this a better world to be in! Stay safe and be well!

Best Wishes,  
Brinda Ghosh  
Principal

### *Editorial...*

The world slowed down, but we're still running. Our entire concept of reality has been turned upside down, yet we have found a way to make things work. We've found ways to learn, to help, to give, to lament, to grow, to endure, to connect, to relax, to care and to not. If existence were the best out of waste competition, I'd say the human race would win. As individuals, we may have trouble dealing with change; but as a species, this is all we have ever known. We adapt to what is or what has come to be, and we're always ready for the next turn of events. If it weren't the covid-19 pandemic, it would've been a zombie apocalypse 10 years from now. For change is alas, inevitable. ..

So, what can we take from this?

It is a fact of life that everything ends. The way things are at a particular point in time, won't last forever. Either you are responsible for said change, or some external factor is. As grim as that sounds, there is always a silver lining.

If, at the moment, reality is a bad place to be in (which, it is), we can rest assured that this too, shall pass. Alternately, if your present is rosy, beautiful and happy, the eventuality of it passing makes the time you have, that much more special; a thing to cherish and celebrate wholeheartedly.

All change leads to growth, on a personal as well as global level. And every change is a lesson learnt. That's what the chronicles of mankind have taught us, and the current circumstances have reinstated.

Now... for future reference, how exactly are we adapting to the unprecedented and consequential events of the year 2020?

At present, technology is a godsend gift for each and every one of us – the governments and administrations; schools, colleges and healthcare providers; companies and individuals in all 3 economic sectors; creators, artists and students; households, families and friends.

We're all able to cope relatively well and retain some sanity through this pandemic, only because of technology. It has been the engine enabling and facilitating the interactive, integrated and interdependent way of being of the 21st century beings.

It is the reason our education isn't suffering, our need for creative expression is taken care of, our health is looked after and we're never short of entertainment or human connection.

This is what the nth chapter in the history of humanity will recount.

The other remarkable thing about being human, is the sense of community and solidarity. In trying times like these, we must be there for each other.

I urge all the readers to help the communities and individuals in need in whichever way they can; whether it is through donations, volunteering or prayers. Remember, we're all in this together!

Saanjali Verma

XII B



# Pre – Primary Wing News

## Experiential learning through online classes

The current situation is posing newer challenges in education. However, to keep pace with the changing scenario, Gyanshree School has been engaging the Shreeyans through online classes. Our little Shreeyans have stepped into their educational life in the times of Covid-19. To their credit, they are adapting and showing immense interest in language development, building new vocabulary, reciting rhymes, story sessions, hands-on activities and much more through the online sessions. They are engaged in experiential learning- building knowledge by doing, which makes learning an exciting journey. We not only put our best foot forward in scholastic development of our Shreeyans, but also in co-scholastic areas by conducting yoga, theatre, Indian music, western music and dance classes online. Through the combined efforts of our Shreeyans and Shreegurus, we strive to create another landmark of success. Here's a sneak peek of a few Shreeyans taking their sessions.



## Baby Steps To Preserve Earth...

Shreeyans of Grade I celebrated Earth Day on 22nd April, 2020 with a medley of educational and fun activities. The aim was to sensitize the Shreeyans towards understanding what they could do in their own little ways in addressing global environmental challenges with compassion and sensitivity.

The session commenced with a discussion about respecting the Earth which raised concerns and created an urge in the Shreeyans to show love for our planet Earth. Importance of waste management (dry and wet waste) was highlighted through discussions followed by an activity. Shreegurus demonstrated how segregation of waste is done - in green (wet) and blue (dry) bins. Shreeyans made thought provoking posters showcasing their creative and artistic skills. They also took a pledge to do their bit towards making planet Earth even more beautiful. The enthusiastic learners contributed by sharing their ideas like switching off lights and fans, when not in use; closing the tap while brushing teeth; using both sides of paper etc. and agreed to prioritize protection of the Earth over all other activities. The Shreeyans learnt a wonderful song which would help them remember their promises to save planet Earth!

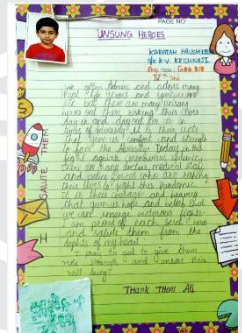


# Primary Wing News



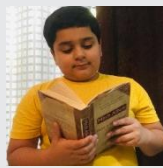
## Celebrating Earth Day & Labour Day- Our Shreeyans' homage to the planet and its workers!

All Shreeyans of the Primary Wing were involved in lively and spirited discourse during class hours, on the occasion of Earth Day and Labour Day, 2020. The motivated learners made posters, planted saplings and even made mini ecosystems to mark the Earth Day on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2020. And on 1<sup>st</sup> May - the International Labour's Day, the Shreeyans wrote thank-you notes and recorded meaningful messages for all those real heroes, who have kept us safe through the lockdown phase - from doctors and nurses to the grocery store owners and the delivery boys. Their wholehearted participation on both these occasions was a strong reminder of the need to respect both our planet and our helpers!



## Book the Day! Celebrating World Book Day at School!!

English online lessons got a lively twist as Shreeyans of the Primary Wing came together to share about their favourite books and authors on the occasion of the World Book Day. Shreegurus spoke about the history of the day and also conducted interesting quizzes on famous books and their authors, thereby acquainting the Shreeyans with the classics. Anecdotes about the legendary authors and their timeless creations were shared, thus introducing the young scholars to the joy of reading.



## Educative Sessions with Dr. Priyanka Prakash

### Learning from the doctor herself!

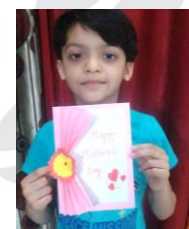
Being aware is indeed the first step towards developing a responsible approach to life and self-care. Starting 19 May, 2020. Dr. Priyanka Prakash conducted a series of online sessions on oral hygiene for the Shreeyans of Grade IV. Not only did she recapitulate the steps of basic dental hygiene, but also explained the Science behind human teeth. The eager learners were acquainted with the principal structure of a tooth and the various types of human teeth through 3D models. Additionally, she shed light on the varied measures that one can adopt to combat plaque formation and spoke about the role played by dentists. This was followed by a live presentation on the technique of flossing for the participants. Dr. Priyanka also held a series of detailed workshops for the Shreeyans of Grade V, on sense organs and the various ways and means of taking care of them.. Each of these classes ended with an informative Q&A sessions that saw a lot of enthusiastic participation and much practical understanding being disseminated.



### The Online Literary Week!

Shreeyans of Grades II-V participated with great zest in the 'Online Literary Week', from April 24, 2020 onwards. The young language learners were engaged in a variety of age-appropriate and enriching literary tasks, which had been conceptualized to bring out the best in them. Shreeyans of Grade II learnt to emote and express through modulating their tone and expressions while speaking or acting and the budding authors of Grade III picked up their notepads to write poems in appreciation of nature and humorous stories about themselves. Meanwhile the master-chefs of Grade IV were guided to explore the power of language in the kitchen... They learnt to read and note down a healthy recipe, prepare it, write slogans and design posters on the benefits of a healthy diet and present their work through short self-recorded videos.

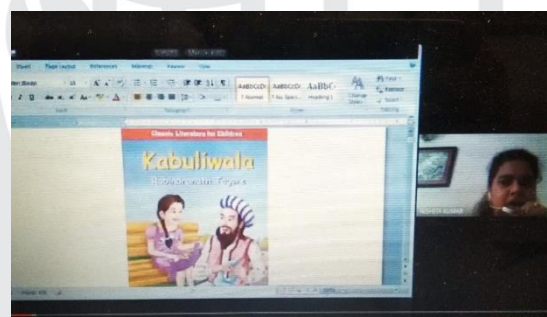
Shreeyans of Grade V led the show by penning down original short stories and meaningful poems. They went a step ahead and designed the cover-pages for their work with the title and the author's name (their own). The wordsmiths of tomorrow then went on to present their work in a mock online 'Book Reading Session' that was fun, informative and enlightening. Besides, Shreeyans also participated in fun word games and puzzles that kept them on their toes. It was a week that saw much learning take place and creativity being explored, even amidst the difficult times. For when you can't lock down learning, why lock up the joy of learning?



### Rediscovering our roots –

#### On the Occasion of Buddha Purnima & Rabindra Jayanti!

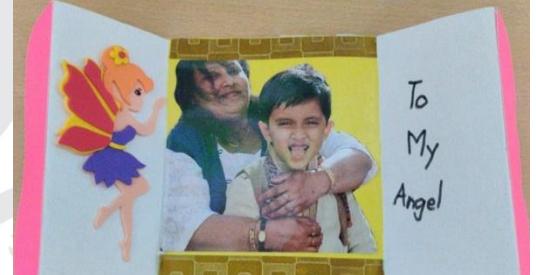
True education must include an awareness of one's heritage as well. Shreeyans of the Primary Wing set about rediscovering their roots on the occasion of Buddha Purnima and Rabindra Jayanti in the first week of May 2020. The online classes that started with the sharing of meaningful videos and exercises in poetry recitation, soon turned into animated class discussions across the Hangout Sessions of the various grades. Shreeyans also displayed their sketches of these great personalities of the bygone era, whose work and teachings continue to remain relevant especially in these testing times.





### Mother's Day Surprise!

Not enough can be said in praise of a mother's unfailing love. Shreegurus of Grades II-V planned a pleasant surprise for the lovely Shreemoms by taking the little ones into confidence. The tiny tots from grade II were encouraged to share photographs of their hand made cards and clicks with their mothers. In the meantime the Shreeyans of Grades III - V recorded short self-composed messages for their mothers and shared them with their grade mentors in secret! The Shreeyans' work and recorded messages were then compiled by the Shreegurus into surprise videos, and shared on the occasion. And the warmth with which the Shreemoms responded was unsurpassable.



### It's Fun to Learn – And the Primary Shreeyans lead the way!

Innovative practises have always been one of the mainstays of education at Gyanshree and it has been no different during the various online sessions. All Shreeyans of grade II participated in a 'Show and Tell' activity, in which they explored their ability to speak fearlessly and present their views on an online platform. The participating Shreeyans stole the show with their unbeatable confidence and the ease with which they spoke about their favourite objects at home. The young researchers along with the Shreeyans of Grade III also put up their own version of the 'Who Was Show', wherein they retaught the concepts of S.St. and Science, explored in their class through active learning sessions, employing the flipped classroom strategy. At the same time, the Upper Primary Shreeyans of Grades IV and V have been engaged fruitfully as well. Shreeyans of Grade IV have used turmeric powder and beetroot water to colour fabrics by using the tie-dyeing method, native to the states of Rajasthan and Gujarat. They furthermore participated in a hands-on weaving activity and created beautifully patterned materials, while learning about the clothes we wear. And their joy knew no bounds when they held the finished products of their labour in their hands. In addition, they paid a virtual visit to the khadi processing unit of Islampur in the Murshidabad District of West Bengal and learned about the diverse techniques used to create exquisite cotton fabrics, textures and design in premium quality Khadi Cotton. Moreover they watched a movie on khadi and observed how khadi is made without machines by Kanika Myer. Shreeyans of Grade V led the way by framing class rules for the ongoing online classes and presenting them through graphic organisers. These continued sessions are a witness to the strong spirit of resilience and a deep-rooted love for learning that each Shreeyan has firmly displayed, in these changing times.





# Secondary Wing News

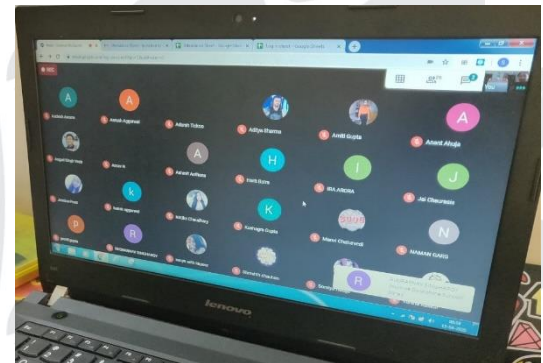
## “Tu Me Manques”... “You Are Missing From Me...”

The unprecedented outbreak of Covid-19 has foisted both teachers and students to seek refuge in online teaching and learning process. It seemed hard in the beginning, but the challenge was wholeheartedly accepted by the teacher cohorts under the guidelines of our School Management Team. Through different online staff development sessions, Shreegurus have been trained and guided to face the new era of the Teaching World.

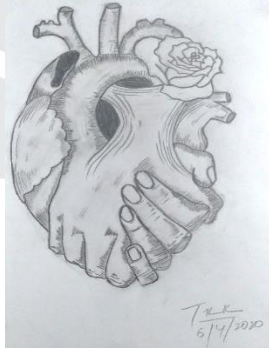
Amidst the pandemic turmoil, our School Team has managed to begin the new academic session as per the school calendar and the classes have been scheduled to meet the expectations of the curriculum.

Online lessons at the Middle and Senior wings are being conducted with ease. In order to meet the expectations of the curriculum, lessons are well planned interspersed with interesting warming up sessions that help in creating a conducive atmosphere, so that students feel free to interact and imbibe valuable life lessons during the sessions. Different activities and value-based learning are also being inculcated in the lessons in order to cater to the needs of the current situation. Regular assessments are also simultaneously being conducted to keep a track of the Teaching-learning Process. Parents are guided and regularly informed of their child's progress.

Furthermore, teachers are exploring different online tools and best strategies to engage their learners online and to make their lessons fruitful. It certainly involves immense learning both for the teachers and students. However, we miss the aura of the school, enthusiastic and curious students in the corridors and beaming playgrounds. Hope we come out of this grave situation soon and implement our online learning in our real classrooms...!



Looking forward to seeing you back...  
Happy and Healthy!!!



### Making It Happen...

Shreeyans of Middle and Senior Wing commemorated the 50th anniversary of Earth Day by participating in a drawing and poster making activity.

Amid the COVID 19 pandemic, the need to take climate action has become as urgent as ever. The pandemic is a stark reminder of the vulnerability of humans and the planet and the fact that damage to the environment must be addressed to in earnest. The art work by Shreeyans highlighted issues like pollution, deforestation, water scarcity, sustainable development and emphasized on the need to come together and take urgent action on climate change and saving the planet.



### Mother-Not Just a Word but an Emotion...

‘All that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother’- Abraham Lincoln

Her selfless acts of love, her relentless contribution to the well-being of her children and her ability to play a multitude of roles in our lives, make a mother the most special person in our lives.

While one day is not enough to pay tribute to and acknowledge the efforts of a mother, our Shreeyans made their mothers feel special and loved on Mother’s Day with their tiny yet meaningful gestures. Shreeyans of Grades VI and VII shared pictures of special moments with their mothers while the senior students planned and cooked a special meal to celebrate Mother’s Day.

Though no amount of gratitude is enough for the endless things a mother does, the activity ‘Ma and Me’ definitely made this day a special one for everyone.







## Shreeyans Remember Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore...

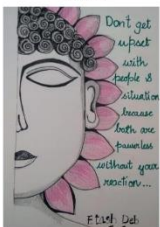
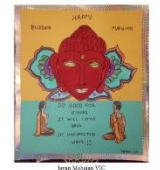
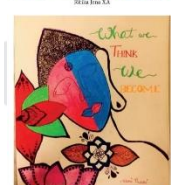
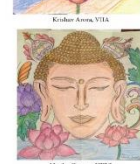
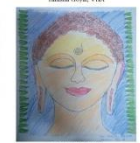
To celebrate the 159th birth anniversary of Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore and in remembrance of the literary genius, Shreeyans of the middle and senior wing collaborated with their peers and recorded videos reciting timeless poems by Tagore. In the process of selecting, reciting and enacting these poems, Shreeyans were able to appreciate Tagore's creative charm and reflect upon the various aspects of life and creation. Reading and reciting his works, especially in the current scenario, where we are all locked up and confined to our homes, gave everyone an opportunity to reflect, introspect and marvel at the wonders of the world. For the endless things a mother does, the activity 'Ma and Me' definitely made this day a special one for everyone.

When Day Is Done  
If the day is done,  
if birds sing no more,  
if the wind has flagged tired,  
then draw the veil of  
darkness thick upon me,  
even as thou hast wrapt the  
earth with the coverlet of  
sleep  
and tenderly closed the  
petals of the drooping lotus at  
dusk.



## Buddham Sharanam Gachami ...

*'Do not educate your child to be rich. Educate them to be happy so when they grow up, they'll know the value of things, not the price.'* The Buddha  
The main goal of the Buddha's philosophy is to eliminate suffering and unhappiness by urging all to tread the path of spirituality leading to enlightenment. To mark the birth anniversary of Lord Buddha, Shreeyans of Grades VI-XII paid a befitting tribute by sketching Buddha's portrait and sharing his tenets and teachings. Beautiful messages accentuating the need for empathy and compassion were shared by the young brigade.





# School News

## Gearing up for online classes...

Change is the only constant, and this has been proven to us yet again by the unfolding of the events in the first quarter of the new session. In the light of the need to move ahead with online classes in these uncertain times, Shreegurus of Primary Wing attended an online training session on the same, on April 2, 2020. Ms. Supreet Kaur from Pearson conducted a detailed session on how to use the online platforms and Pearson digital resources in an integrated manner to give effective online lessons. It was an afternoon of much learning as teachers were familiarized on how to integrate audio, video, white board, chat and recordings seamlessly to make the classes efficacious and relevant. And that was just the beginning. Shreegurus have attended a series of online training sessions, workshops and notable webinars, which have equipped Shreegurus to conduct their online sessions seamlessly, in an exemplary manner and with a positive attitude.

Our Principal – Ms. Brinda Ghosh guided us yet again on how to tackle the challenges that are an inevitable part and parcel of this changing world scenario, as a panelist, on the session "Rockspport Re-Inventing Schools Webinar Series - Evolving a classroom with Experiential Learning". And the team of Shreegurus have benefitted much from these learning experiences. Ms. Sayantanee Mishra, Shreeguru Primary Wing also got an opportunity to present the school's innovative approach to online teaching at the FICCI Arise – Higher Teachers Webinar – Managing Student Engagement Online.



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## Camp Oasis 2020 – Summer Camp

*‘Just when the caterpillar thought the world was ending, it turned into a butterfly.’*

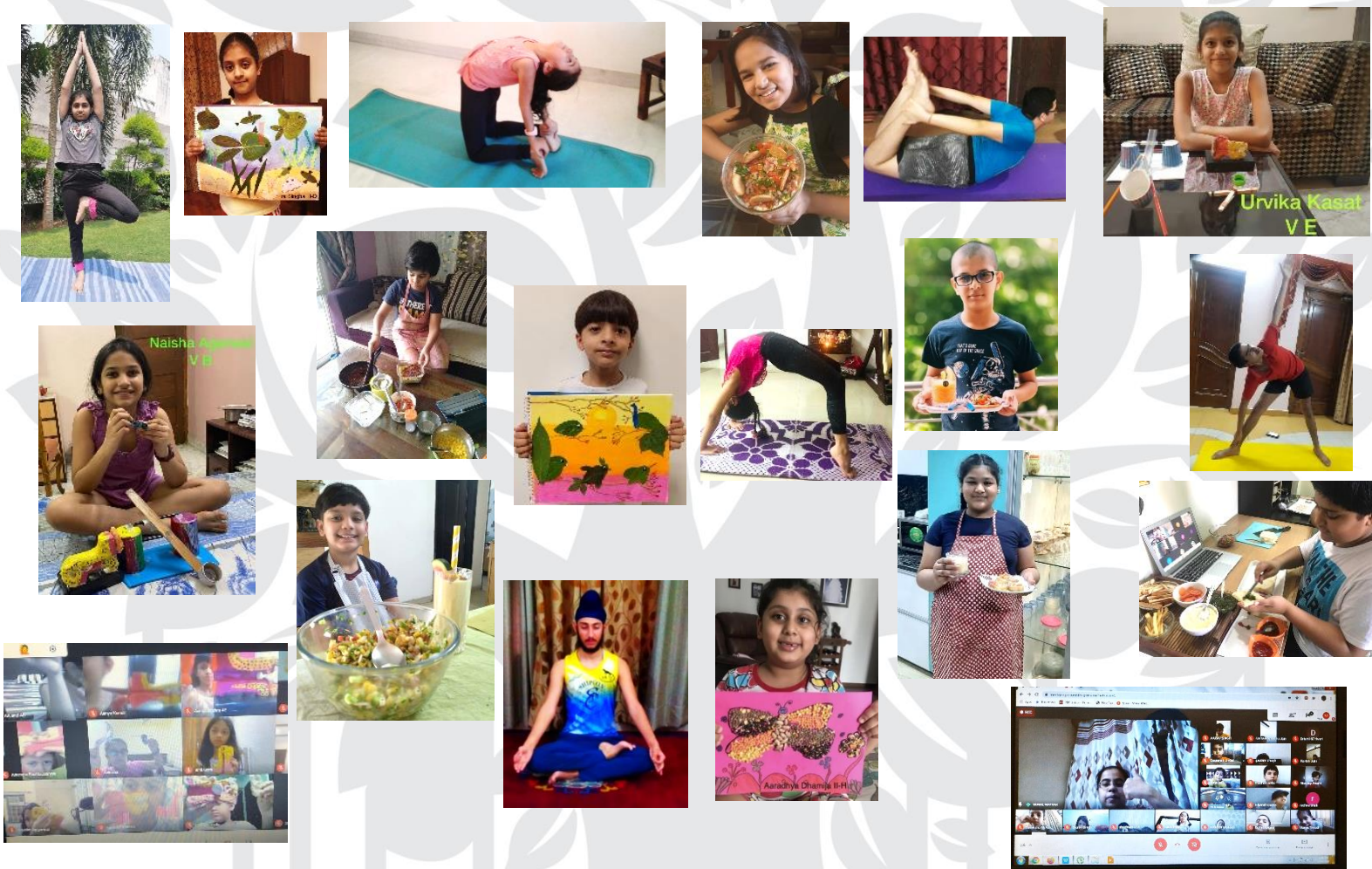
Every adversity in life brings new experiences and new lessons. If one wants to acquire a new skill or explore something they have never tried before, there cannot be a better time than this.

Gyanshree School organized a virtual Summer Camp from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 12<sup>th</sup> June to provide the *Shreeyans* with an opportunity to engage their minds, develop their skills and at the same time have fun.

During the summer break, children tend to become sluggish and boredom creeps in. Restrictions on movement and no travel plans to look forward to, have only added to the monotony. In such a scenario, the Summer Camp offered a wide array of activities to the participating campers of the Primary wing and they chose to pursue their interests with passion and joy. The different sessions covered topics ranging from storytelling to craft, yoga to Zumba, classical dance and music to scientific experiments and even writing.

Students of the Middle and Senior wing enthusiastically participated in the virtual camp by learning Cookery, Art, Music, Yoga and Theatre. These activities not only added an element of fun, but also gave the *Shreeyans* a sense of purpose during the holidays.

In times like these, the Summer Camp reminded us that physically we may be confined to the four walls but the mind is free, our imagination knows no boundaries and there is no greater joy than learning.



### CREDITS

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