

Cherries

The Official Newsletter of Billabong High International
School - Kelambakkam
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1..2...3.... Issue Finale 2020-21

Shiny Shajil (Editor and Activities Coordinator)

As we are nearing the end of a glorious academic session all the classrooms were glammed up and tweaked to suit the theme of the culminating activity and the children were seen dressed up to represent their theme. From the land of the Mummies to the land of Kangaroos... BHIS-K had undergone a complete makeover session. - Read the 75th Issue of Cherries Newsletter as the halls and classrooms of BHIS-K were bustling with children and teachers.

One issue later, however, the inaugural edition saw the students of BHIS-K locked up in their homes and schooling began through a virtual platform. Who knew that 37 issues later virtual schooling would still be persistent and we would still be creating ripples in the virtual world. Cherries took on to feature articles that showed the tryst between

education and technology. It took a full circle when the Cherries Newsletter who had a technological origin got to bring to the world the best use of technology through education. Today as we reach the final issue of Cherries for the Academic year 2020-21, let us take a moment to cherish the memories we made and welcome a better tomorrow with a fresh batch of Cherries during the inaugural week. Until then, enjoy the issue 123.



BILLABONG HIGH
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
KELAMBAKKAM
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From the Chairperson's Desk

Mr. Yasir Nainar

Respected Readers of Cherries

I know all of us are waiting anxiously for the pandemic to end and for life to return to what was known as normal before. I mean people meeting face to face without a mask to hide their face is no more considered normal but rather abnormal.

The virtual world that was a life of myth before is today the new normal. We, educationists, have somehow come to terms with it as much as we like it or not.

We keep waking up every day to the challenges of teaching our children

online when we can't see them or feel their knowledge gain as much as we would in a physical classroom.

Kudos to our teachers for keeping the education alive while we waited for medical practitioners and political leaders to lead us out of this pandemic.

We, humans, are always considered to be God's transformation engine. Pandemics such as this only tell us that we have to live within the tenets of what God wants us to do otherwise he will in his way make transformations happen and life will reset itself without us realizing it.

My philosophical note in this last issue of Cherries for the academic year 2020-21 only calls upon our parents, our students, and our educators' community to join hands in the fight against causing human disasters. Let us grow in knowledge and wisdom to reason and question the way we do things and change it for the better if it needs to be changed.

Corona is only the beginning if we humans don't use our common senses to live life in the service of our society and move ahead as one human race despite our differences.

May God keep all of us safe, healthy, and knowledgeable to meet the new world of responsible living and knowledge sharing.

Cherries is our small effort in this right direction. I thank Shiny ma'am and all the Cherries contributors for keeping this amazing information engine rolling in these difficult times.

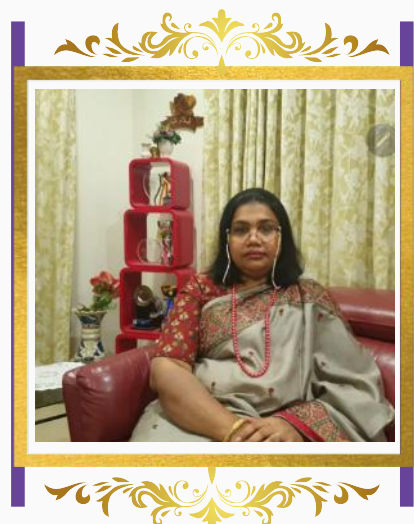
Leaving you in hope and wisdom!!



Journey of Cherries

From the Principal's Desk - Ms. Asma Nainar

In February 2017, an idea to have a common platform to connect with our parents paved the way for the origin of our newsletter "Cherries". Transformation has always been our motto that has constantly propelled us to strive for the better. Our Educators and students have been equally enthusiastic to showcase the activities and the events conducted on a regular basis to our parents. Each issue has been a result of the sole effort and talent put by each and every student channeled through the constant guidance of our teachers. A big shoutout to the editor of Cherries who, especially, during this pandemic situation has neither failed to deliver nor has missed any edition. Seeing how times fly by, we have now come to the last edition for this Academic year 2020-21. My vision for this upcoming year is to train our students to adopt their own style. Our only request to our parents is to actively contribute to our newsletter so that it is benefitted largely. Lastly, I would like to thank our lovely triad of parents, teachers and students without whom this newsletter would not have been possible.



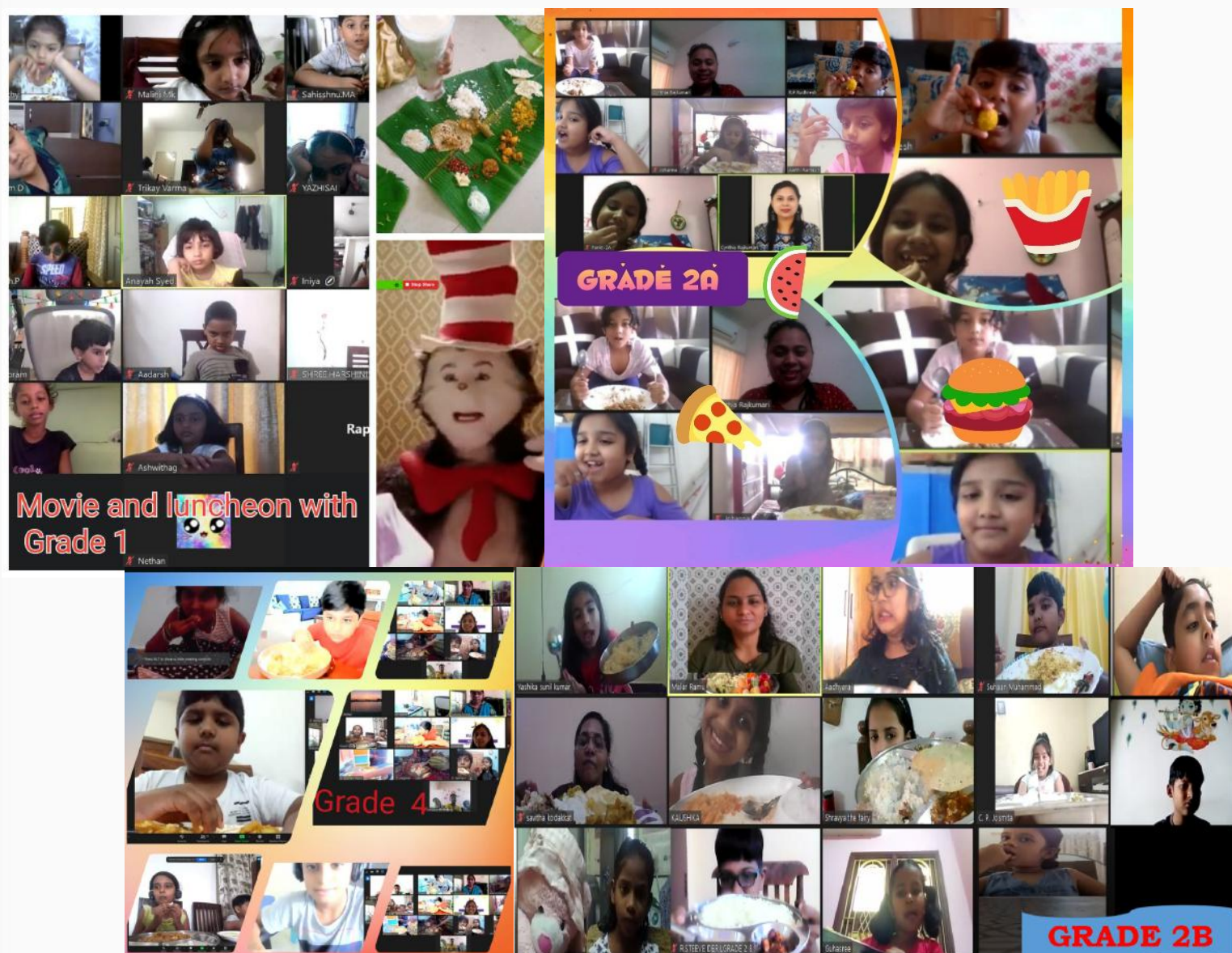
Last working day of a very memorable year!

Ms.Aishwarya Menon (Grade 1: Home-room Educator)

Empty corridors, empty classrooms, and empty boards at schools have become the new norm. Educators around the world would agree on one thing and that is they would give anything in exchange to see those empty classrooms filled with boisterous children again. Not even in our wildest dreams, we would have thought of taking regular classes for young children, let alone complete an academic year online. And yet here we are on the last day of this whirlwind of an academic year filled with challenges, apprehensions, and a whole lot of confusion. But we would unanimously agree on the fact that this has been a year of learning for everyone across the world.

To mark an end to this wonderful year, the primary wing of BHIS-K organized a virtual lunch with children. Educators joined their respective class' students to bid adieu to the students and wish them luck for a new year. Little excited faces on the screen screaming, "Ma'am we are going to the next grade, we are big children now", really made each of our hearts swell with pride. The smile on their faces when they sat with their lunch plates, made us realize how much we are going to miss them the next academic year.

I wish I could put this year in a capsule and save it for years to come for this year has been very different in all senses not just for educators, but for students, parents, and all those who are in connection with an educational institution. Three cheers to everyone who has been a part of this amazing journey. Let us keep these memories of the past year afresh for a better year ahead!



A year with Technology

Ms. Cynthia (Grade 2 Homeroom Educator)

This academic year is a memorable one in a very different way, for the first time ever, schools have moved on to online classes and opened the windows for technology like never before. Digital learning played a vital role in children's education and was effective and engaging. Our billabongers learned the techniques so fast and adapted to the virtual classrooms swiftly. In a short span they incubate to follow their routine and they all started performing like a tech-savvy pro. They learned to log in at the right time, to take turns, when to mute and unmute, annotate, and much more. Not only the students, but even facilitators also impart knowledge through online classes shortly and crisply. A digitized beginning ended with a digitized end. Everyone is a technophile now.

Together we were better and Together we are future-ready for our next academic year



It's Party Time...

Ms.Devi (Nursery Educator)



Every year the last day of school seems to arrive so quickly! My Nursery students have grown and changed since they first stepped foot in my virtual classroom. We celebrated the last day of Nursery in a colourful way. Children came in party wear, their home classrooms were decorated, and all were excited to enjoy the class party. We played with the balloons, danced, had snacks together, and glanced through the most beautiful memories we had during our nursery classes through a video. It was a day with a mixture of emotions. Children, you smiled, laughed, and sometimes cried. Not all of our days were easy, but most of our days were filled with learning, excitement, and happiness.

Flowers !!

Ms. Ayesha & Ms. Shahana
(JR KG Educators)

Today marks the last day of our lovely Junior Kindergarten. We enjoyed doing a beautiful art activity one last time & danced together to make it a memorable day. We're glad to be your teachers and we enjoyed each & every moment spent together in our class. We love you so much, we can't believe the end is so near remember all the fun we had in all the things we did, always remember you're a very special kid!!!



Music

Ms.Neha Gosh (English Educator)

The 'Saraswati Vina' or also known as Veena is known to be one of the most important and popular string instruments in the classical 'Carnatic music'. The invention of veena is mythologically is credited to sage Narada. As quoted by Padma Jayraj " The veena is a complete instrument that gives the basic components of sruti, laya and sahitya. Its defining feature is its mellow tonal quality that evokes a meditative mood."

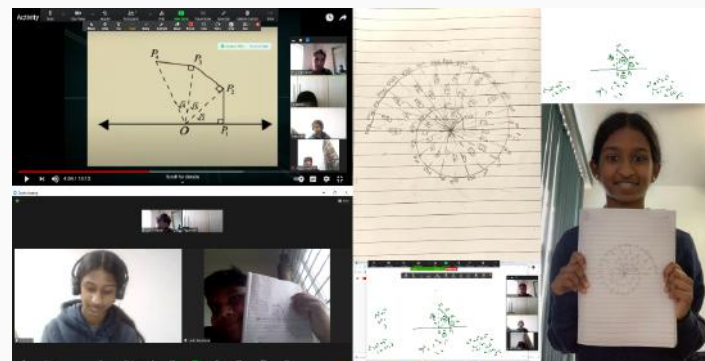
"One who is skilled in playing the veena,
One who is an expert in the varieties of srutis,
One who is proficient in thala, attains salvation without effort."
Grade-V of BHISK presented their version of Veena after they got to know the emphasis of veena in Indian Classical Music.



Spiral of Theodorus

Ms. Padmapriya Sreeram (CAIE Coordinator)

Representation of irrational numbers on a number line is an interesting activity. Our ninth graders set out to do this and had loads of fun doing it. To better understand the concept of numbers, from the system of rational numbers to the system of real numbers, the understanding of irrational numbers is essential. In geometry, the Spiral of Theodorus also called Square Root Spiral or Pythagorean Spiral is a wheel composed of right triangles placed edge-to-edge. An interesting feature of the Spiral of Theodorus is that, though it is a fully unified figure, each new stage reveals a hypotenuse which is either rational or irrational in length. This is shown using the Pythagorean Theorem. The learners appreciated the design illustrating the connection between mathematics and nature while simultaneously comprehending the mystery and beauty of the numbers.



Kindergarten Coordinator

Ms. Ayesha (JR KG Educator)

“Graduation - is a time to celebrate a new beginning and warm memories of the past and big dreams for the future”.

Kindergarten graduation is an exciting milestone for pre-primary children as it's their first step towards a future full of hopes and possibilities.

To celebrate progression and development, Our Nursery and Junior Kindergarten children of BHIS-K performed lovely dance and song.

The performances were for their Senior Kindergarten Friends to wish all of them a bright and successful future.

The most important part of the celebrations was the convocation.

It was indeed a joyous and memorable day for the little ones as they received their Graduation Certificate Virtually.

It was a great pleasure for all of us to have Ms Meenal Bakshi, principal of DPS-Monarch International School, Doha, Qatar who graced our event with her lovely wishes and blessing for our future Billabongers.

Kindergarten Educators Wishing all our future Billabongers a successful and bright future.

Memories bring back, memories bring back you.....



GLOBAL WARMING

Mother Earth, Mother Earth What
is happening?
This is called global warming my dear, it
is very very saddening

Why is this happening oh Mother
Earth?
All the ice and ice caps are melting and
flooding the earth.

Oh my Mother Earth is there something
we can do?
You can stop polluting so we don't become
get flooded or barbecued!