



THE ORCHID SCHOOL

Baner, Pune

Term I Newsletter- Middle Domain

AY 2021-22

Dear Parents,

Season's Greetings from the Middle Domain!

As the 1st term comes to an end, I am writing to you reminiscing moments of the first part of academic year 2021-22. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the love, support and faith you continue to have in TOS. We are able to achieve our objectives due to consistent encouragement and feedback from your side. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of my team for their efforts in ensuring that student's needs oversee all our plans and activities.

Our top most endeavor has been in creating maximum learning experiences in multiple settings to provide wholesome opportunities for students to thrive and discover themselves. Second year of online school has not dampened our spirits and with ease we settled down with the new normal. Learning is a treasure that we hope will follow its owner everywhere.

Many thanks and kudos to the students of Middle Domain. Hoping that school will begin in the physical form in AY 21-22, they continued with the same zeal and spirit like last year. They have once again proven to that they can adapt to the given situation better than us without inhibitions and constraints.

Heartfelt gratitude to all parents for their faith in us and who have worked hand in hand to keep the learning afloat. You truly have been instrumental to support us in this unprecedented time.

I thank my Coordinator Rinku Goyal, who got into the groove from day one and amicably held the reigns of the domain.

I fall short of words when I thank my team. They have truly imbibed the ethos of the school and with their untiring efforts and determination kept the boat of teaching and learning process afloat. They are the true frontline warriors who have turned the plans into action. I thank my leaders Lakshmi Di, Sangeeta Di and Atreyi Di for guiding and leading us at every step. Only with their support was this uphill task possible.

Let me now take you through the events and happenings of the Middle Domain in Term I.

Principal's Message



Dear Parents,
Festive Greetings to all!

The time has come to give closure to the first term of this academic year. Soon after a short break we all will begin our journey with more energy and enthusiasm.

This phase of pandemic and online functioning has taught us many lessons for life. Let us embrace those learning. Let us pledge to respect our resources, take care of our environment. Let us still focus on celebrating our festivals in an eco-friendly manner. Let us say no to fire crackers, instead let us look around us for people who need our care and company. Let's be good citizens.

The 2nd term will begin after this much needed break. Post vacation the major focus of us would be in identifying and bridging the gaps that have seeped in different forms in our surroundings and in students' lives. The students will need to be brought back to socializing and bonding with peers. The learning process will be little extended and will require extra time and effort. The TOS Team is all geared up to bridge the gaps and I am sure you all parents will always be the partner in this journey.

Let's walk together for a new beginning.

With best wishes and immense respect for all

-Sangeeta Kapoor

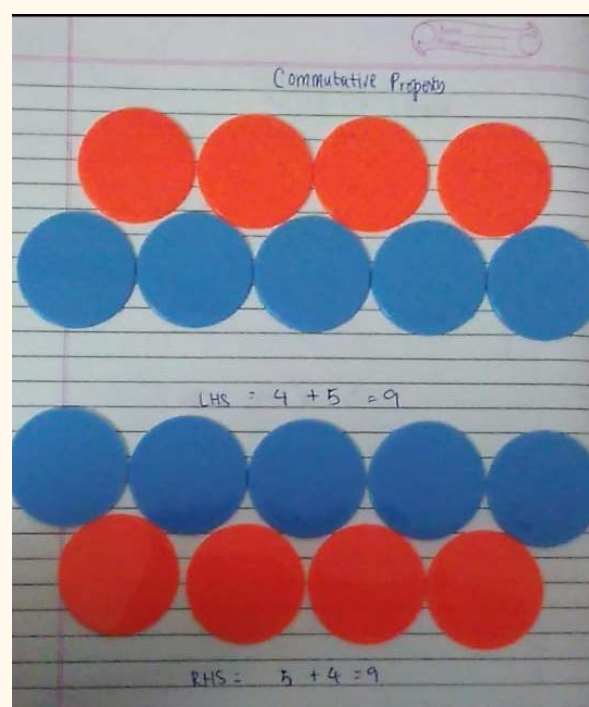
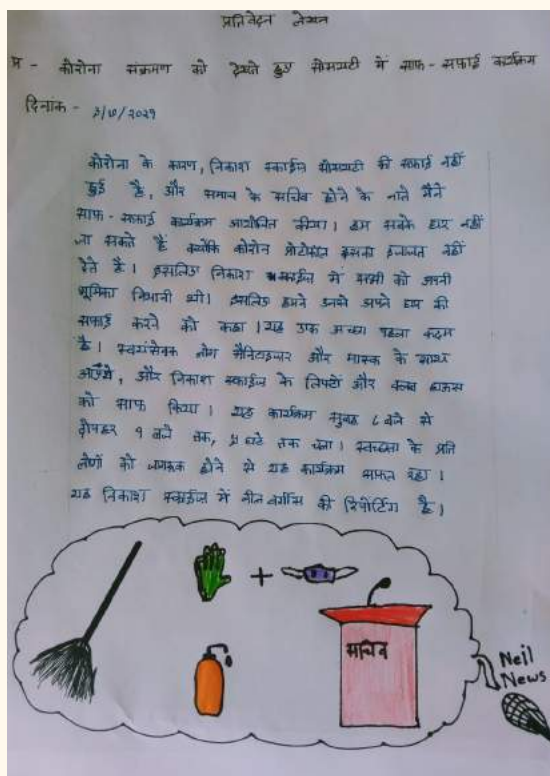
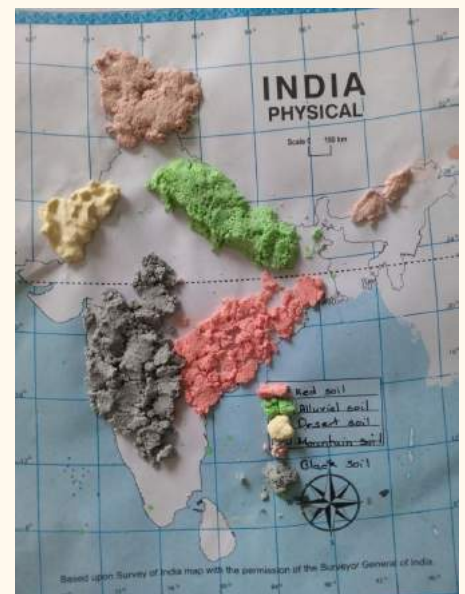
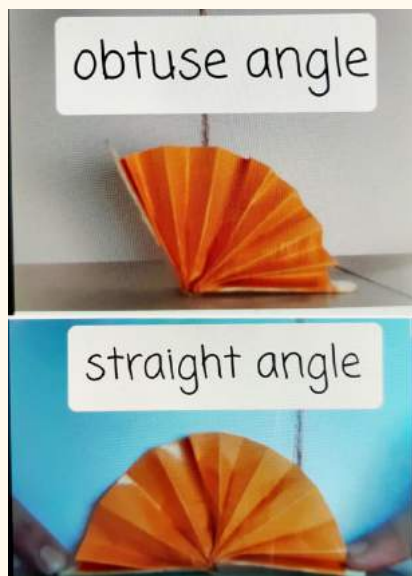
A peek into the Middle Domain...

Learning Kit- From June AY 2021, Learning Kits were introduced for Classes V to VIII.

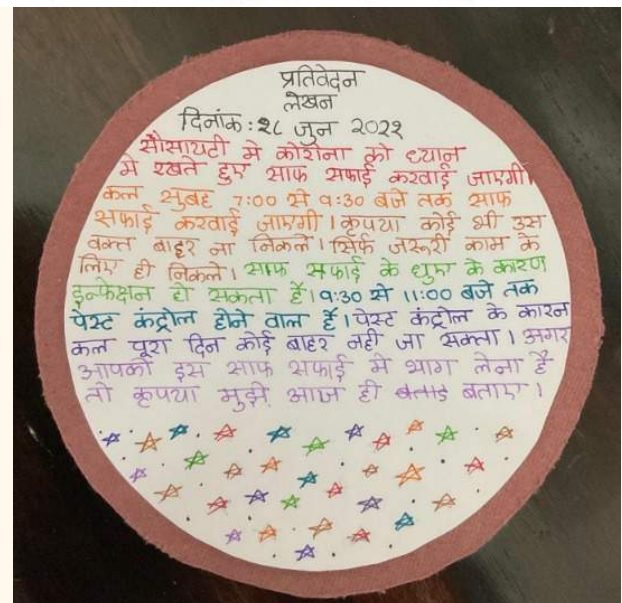
Objectives-

- to provide manipulatives, materials and worksheets to students
- involvement of students in hands on activities

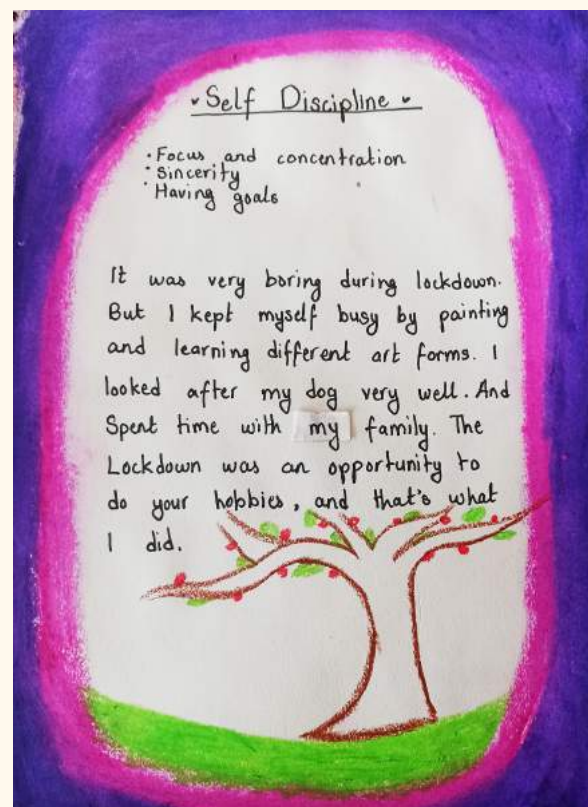
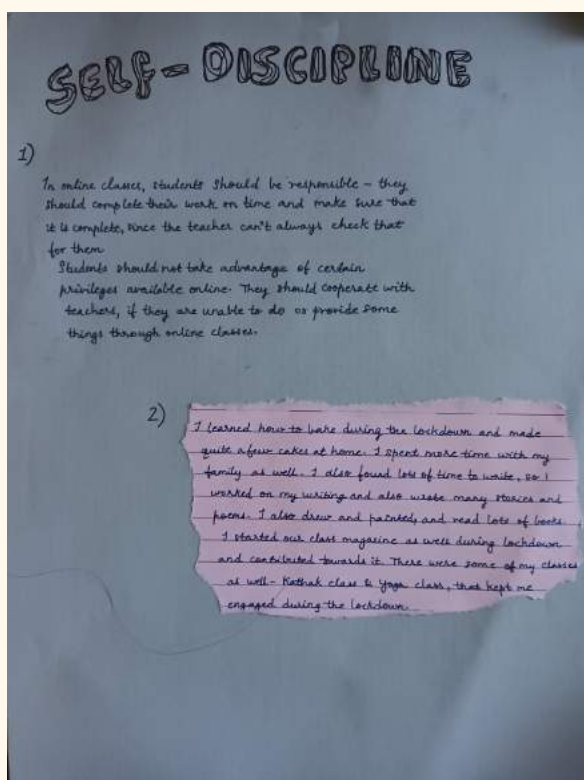
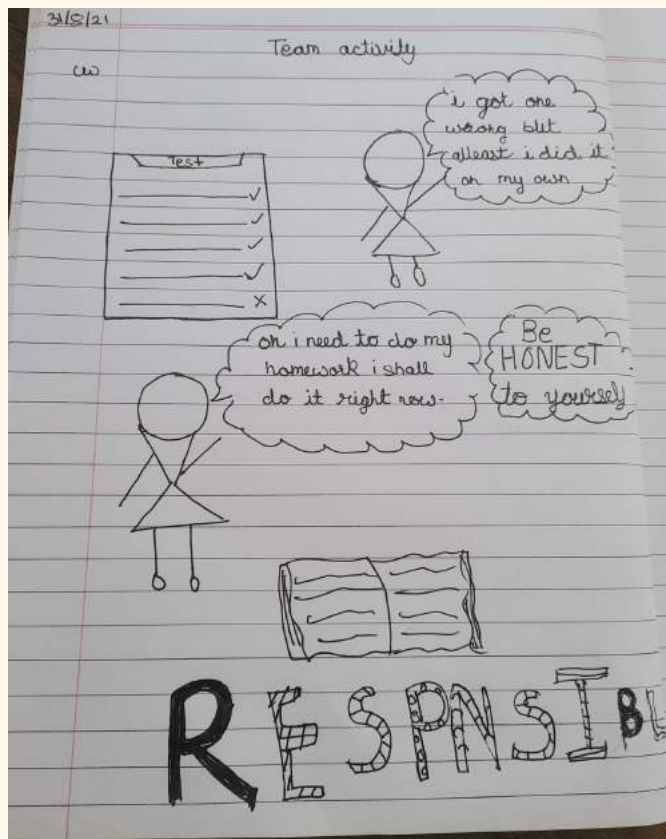
In the respective subject link meetings, teachers planned subject enrichment activities and related materials/manipulatives and worksheets which can go in the learning kit. Students then used the same to perform activities and experiments at home.



Learning kit activities



Theme of the Year: After an year of dealing with the the situation, we all have got acclimatized to the situation. This year's theme was hence woven into beating the pandemic. Self Care, Discipline: Valuing and being responsible with freedom, Compassion and Empathy were some of the topics which were dealt with. Students were engaged in the activities during their CT time and these were also embedded into their curriculum.




Visitor/expert talk- Inviting visitors and experts from various fields has always been an integral part of the teaching learning process at TOS. Experts add value to the curriculum by sharing their knowledge and expertise. This term, we invited visitors and experts from different walks of life; an author, an Indologist, an historian, a landscape artist, an environmentalist to name a few.


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Session with Author - Sudheer Mahabal

Thursday, July 15, 2021
at 11:00AM
on
MS Teams



The return journey of the Wari as experienced by the author- a first hand account



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Journey Of Buddhism in India
Visitor session for Class VI


Wednesday, 6th October
10.AM to 11.30AM




Facilitator: Saniya Mane
Historian and Indologist,
Founder of Pathil

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Baner, Pune

Reckon the Positive Change
SAGAR MITRA



Date: 6th July 2021
Time: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
For Class V students

Speaker: Mr. Vinod Bodhankar
Joint Director, Sagarmitra Abhiyaan
Joint Convener for Maharashtra Jalbiradari

We know we can save the world from plastic, but do we know how?

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Expert Talk on 'History We Missed'
for students of Grade VII


Wednesday, 15th September, 2021
Monday, 20th September, 2021
10:00 am to 11:00 am-Microsoft Teams




Speaker- Mr. Pradeep Chakravarthy
Behaviourist and Historian

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Expert Talk on 'The Genesis of Ganesh Utsav'
by Mr. Prateek Jawale
of Bhausaheb Rangari Ganesh Mandal



Chef's at work, Session- Fasting and Feasting
by Mr. Sachin Joshi
Executive Chef at Taj Blue Diamond, Pune



Visitor session - Environment and Ganesh Utsav
by Ms.Shailaja Deshpande
of Jeevit Nadi

CLASS VIII - GANESH UTSAV PROJECT



Stay Qrious
LEARN FOR LIFE

WHAT CAN CAPTAIN AMERICA'S SHIELD TEACH YOU ABOUT COMPUTATIONAL THINKING?

LIVE MASTERCLASS FOR **THE ORCHID SCHOOL** STUDENTS BY INDIA'S MOST POPULAR TEACHER

GRADES IV AND V
AUGUST 5TH, THURSDAY
10:20 AM

GRADES VI AND VII
AUGUST 6TH, FRIDAY
10:20 AM

AANAND SRINIVAS
CEO & CO-FOUNDER, STAYQRIOUS
EX-KHAN ACADEMY

THE ORCHID SCHOOL
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जापता राजा
Shivaji, the Maratha Warrior King

Facilitator : Mrs Smita Erande,
Resource person, Bhaashaa Foundation




Date : 11th to 13 Oct
Class IV - 10.30 am to 11.30am
Class V - 12 noon to 1pm

Three Parenteer- We at TOS believe that parents are equal partners and the most important stakeholders who are equally involved in imparting knowledge to the students which goes beyond the textbook. This year we decided to tap this resource and invite parents who are subject matter experts in various fields and who will add value to the curriculum. Parents hailed this initiative and quite a few came forward and conducted various session with the students. Few parents of Class V even helped English teachers to conduct Subject Enrichment Activities.



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**Parent Visitor Session-August 2021
for Students of Class VIII**

Seeing through Sound
A session on exploring ultra sound in the field of medicine

**Tuesday, 24 August 2021
8:30AM**
Venue: MS Teams



Dr. Manisha Hadgaonkar
Consultant Radiologist
Aditya Birla Memorial and Mega Vision Diagnostic



THE ORCHID SCHOOL
BANER, PUNE

**Expert Talk On Natural Resources for
students of Class VIII**

Land Use

Types of Soil

Conservation of Water

Sustainable Management of Resources



Speaker-Ms. Manjiri Mahajan,
Landscape Architect

**Friday, 9th July 2021
8:30 am to 9:30 am - Microsoft Teams**



THE ORCHID SCHOOL
BANER, PUNE

आस्था पेशेवरों का कार्यक्रम


THREE PARENTEER PROGRAM

CLASS VII
WARI -CULTURE CONNECT
2021-22

PARENT SPEAKERS


- Mr. Bhagvatrao Jagtap
- Ms. Ketaki Apte
- Ms. Bhakti Joshi

Day/Date: Friday, 30th July 2021
Time: 12:35 PM to 1:15 PM
Platform: MS Teams

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Art and Science of Forts

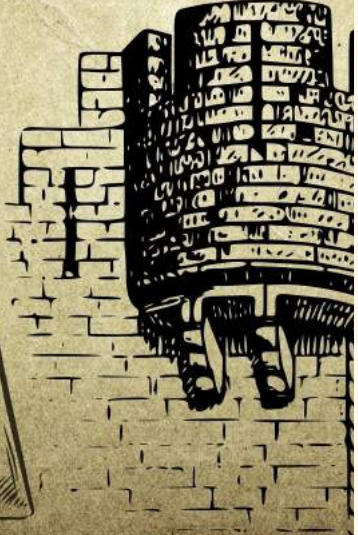


Mr. Kedar Patankar
History buff,
Author and Environmentalist

Online on MS Teams

Class V
28th Oct. 9am to 10 am

Class IV
29th Oct. 9 am to 10 am



Mentor Program-

The Orchid School launched the Mentorship Programme for all its students in the month of July 2021. Mentoring is a relationship between two people with the goal of enhancing the professional and personal development of the mentee.

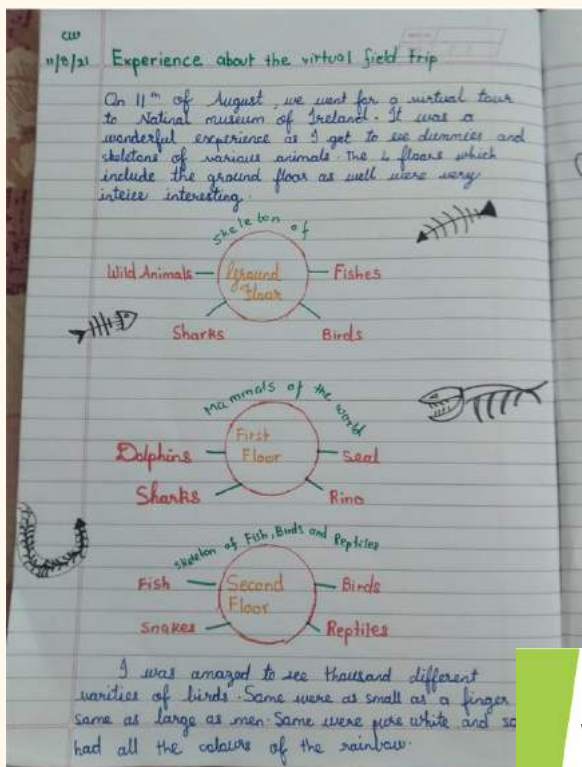
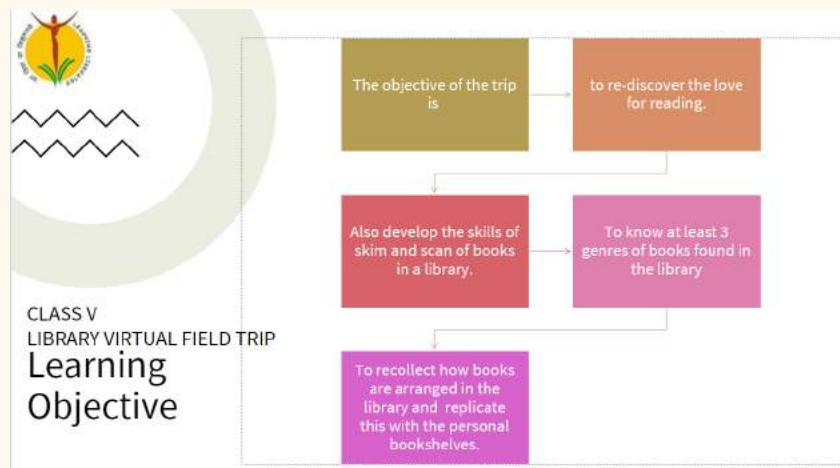
The core objective of the program is:

- To reach out to the mentee and help them evolve holistically.
- To encourage personal growth of the mentee.
- To help promote feelings of awareness and discovery in the mentee.

Mentors (TOS teachers) became trusted advisers and supported and encouraged their mentees by offering suggestions and knowledge, both general and specific. The goal is to help mentees improve their skills and help them overcome apprehensions and inhibitions which might hold them from achieving their fullest potential.



Virtual Field trip- Online schooling did not deter us and we planned field trips for all levels in the virtual form. Class V toured our own TOS library whereas Class VI went straight to Ireland to visit the National museum in connection to their concept of the skeletal system. Class VII and VIII visited places closer to home; Wari and Bhausaheb Rangari Ganesh Mandal as part of their integrated project.



Class VII
WARKARI PROJECT वारी प्रकल्प
2021-2022



Some glimpses into the Integrated Projects- Warkari and Ganesh Utsav



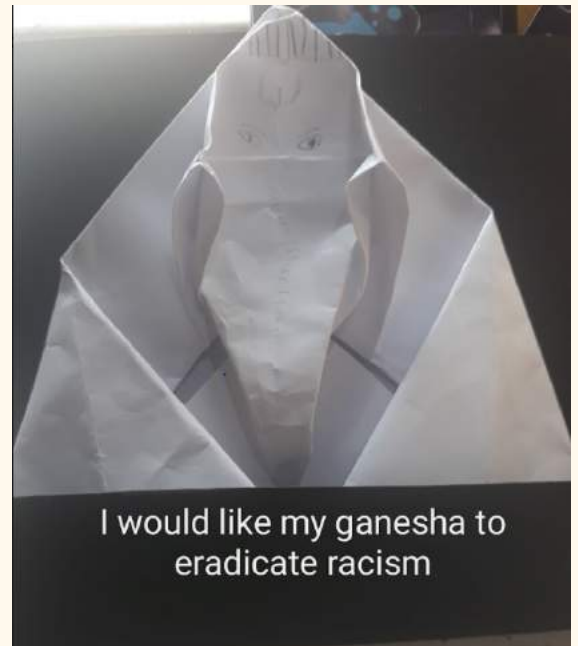
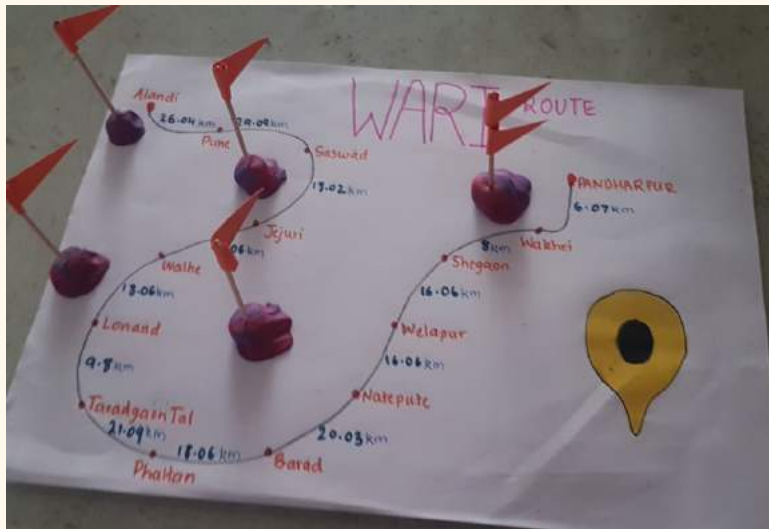
Bhakti Movement

Sufism and Bhakti Movement

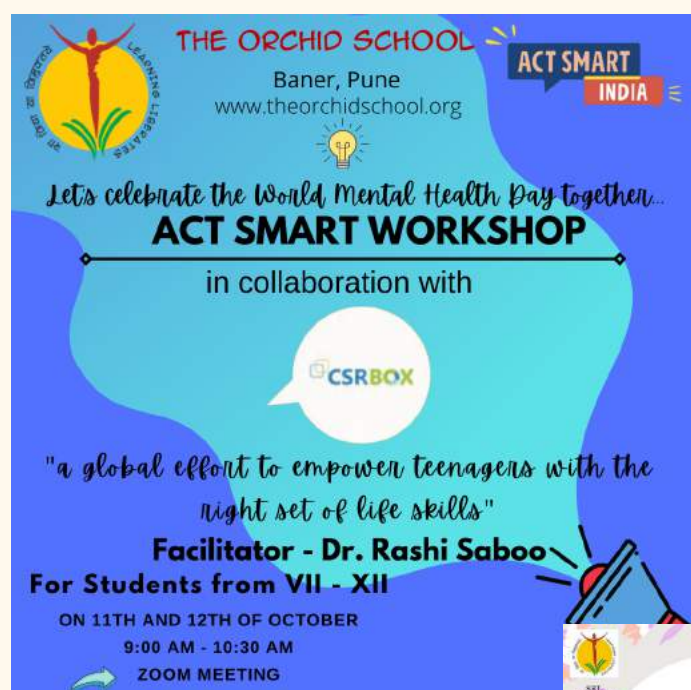
- The spirit of tolerance and mutual influence which resulted in the blossoming of the Indo-Islamic culture led to the development of two liberal religious reforms movements in India-the Sufi and the Bhakti movements.
- A number of sufi and bhakti saints emphasised of the essential unity of Islam and Hinduism, and laid stress on a religion based on love and devotion rather than one based on rituals.



Sufism



Emotional wellbeing- At TOS, we give equal importance, in fact sometimes more, for the emotional wellbeing of the students and staff as we believe that a high emotional quotient is the sign of a healthy mind and soul. Our Wellness team comprising of special educators and counsellors time and again plan activities revolving around socio-emotional learning. Their weekly 'Being well with TOS' post are much awaited by the students and the parents. Students of VII and VIII were a part of the 'ACT SMART' Initiative that addressed the challenges of bullying, peer pressure, and underage lifestyle habits such as addiction. The session was conducted in collaboration with CSRBOX. The students found the session to be highly insightful and as an eye - opener to them.



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ACT SMART INDIA

Let's celebrate the World Mental Health Day together...

ACT SMART WORKSHOP

in collaboration with

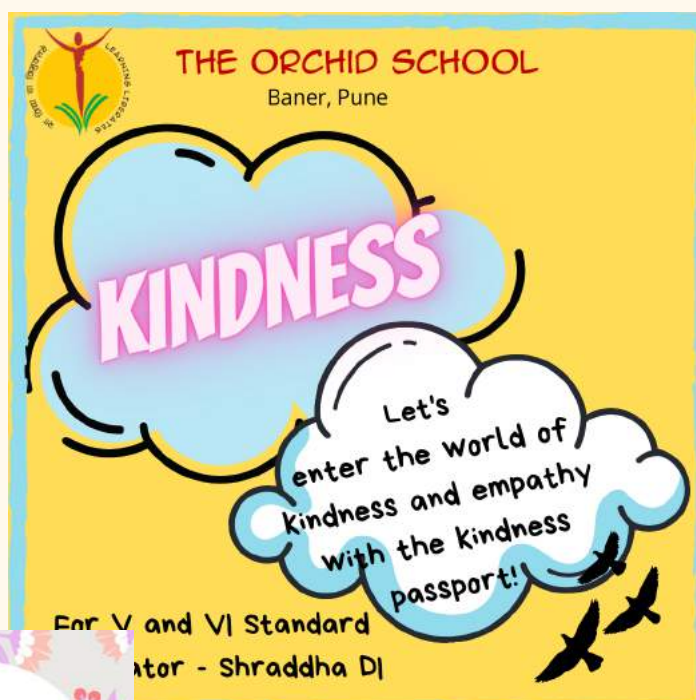
CSRBOX

"a global effort to empower teenagers with the right set of life skills"

Facilitator - Dr. Rashi Saboo

For Students from VII - XII

ON 11TH AND 12TH OF OCTOBER
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM
ZOOM MEETING



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KINDNESS

Let's enter the world of kindness and empathy with the kindness passport!

For V and VI Standard
Facilitator - Shraddha Di



Kindness Prompt 6

Do something nice for yourself.



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BUILDING COMPETENCIES FOR FUTURE SERIES

In collaboration with

genNEXT
"Are you future-ready?"

WHAT NEXT?!

THERE'S A WORLD BEYOND DOCTORS AND ENGINEERS... LET'S EXPLORE!!

OCTOBER 9TH SATURDAY, 2021
STANDARDS VIII & IX - 8:30 AM TO 9:30 AM
STANDARDS X & XI - 5:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

LET'S MEET ON A NEW PLATFORM
connectED
gennext.me/community



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ANXIETY AND MINDFULNESS

"Worry is a misuse of imagination"
- Dan Zadra

FOR MIDDLE DOMAIN STUDENTS

From - 24th September 2021
Facilitator - Shraddha Di

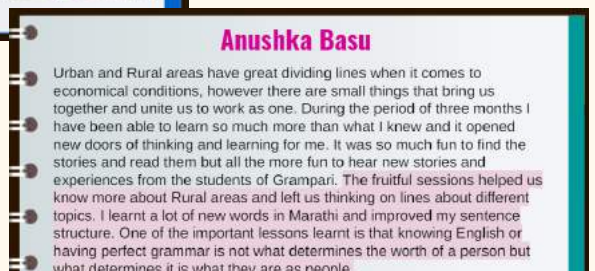
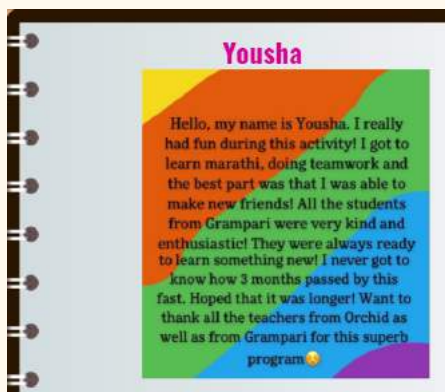
Community Projects

TOS-Grampari Collaboration



Collaboration is driven by the need to overcome or counter challenging circumstances. The main aim of collaboration is sharing of professional expertise amongst teachers and the enrichment of learning opportunities for students by breaking down barriers between schools and between individuals. The latter suggests the relevance of inter-school collaboration in the context of developing empathy over sympathy.

In this academic year, volunteer students of Class VIII of collaborated with Class VIII students of Grampari, a Non-Governmental Organisation situated in Panchgani. This collaboration parallelly took place on two fronts- between teachers and students. Students from each side met every Saturday during a span of three months and shared their findings on



Community Projects



Read a Story





Taking a step forward to work towards the ideals of experiences and exposure that are beyond the curriculum and in order to ensure the holistic development of each of its students, The Orchid School organized a virtual Community Project in collaboration with the 'Read A Story' organization. The students of Grades 7 and 8 got an amazing opportunity to volunteer with this organization. Volunteer students will read out stories to tribal students from Thalassery, a village near Dahanu. They will be devoting a total of 12 hours of their time to read stories to those students.

This project will continue till December 2021 and will give students a wonderful chance to explore the world beyond what they are already familiar with, by having interactions with people that come from a very different background and reality.


Students who successfully complete these 12 hours of story reading will receive a certificate.

**THE ORCHID SCHOOL**
Baner, Pune

THE ORCHID SCHOOL
IN COLLABORATION
WITH
'READ A STORY'



For Students of VII and VIII Standard
Orientation Session - 26/08/21
Time - 6 pm to 7 pm
Venue - Microsoft Teams



Live Events

Guru Purnima- An Ode to Gurus

Students of Class VII and VIII paid ode to their gurus on the auspicious occasion of Guru Purnima. It was heartwarming to see how our students and fine arts teachers took up the challenge to showcase their art during an FB live event. The art teachers and children of Grade VII and VIII painstakingly prepared for an FB Live program consisting of live and pre-recorded performances of the students. This was their maiden attempt for a live program and their enthusiasm and positive reinforcements certainly made their day.



Nine Days Nine Stories



In the second year of our initiative to celebrate women achievers who have reached the peak in spite of all the odds, Middle Domain decided to honour women in the field of Science who have transcended their limitations/oppression / exploitation.....and triumphed. Along with reading stories in the class of women who created a mark for themselves we also planned a FB Live event. The program was fondly called '**Unsung Sheroines in the World of Science**'. Selected students from Levels V to VIII participated in this program where they took a peek into the life of Anandibai Joshi, Kamala Sohonie and Sudha Murthy. We also invited Dr. Nitali Tadkalkar, a young scientist and researcher. She shared her views on women and the science field and how it is important to ask questions to satisfy your curiosity.

New Initiatives



CSSoch for Class V –

- CSSoch, a computer program to develop computational and logical thinking was introduced for students of Class V in the month of August 2021.
- This tool is helping students to develop their computational and logical thinking.
- It is based on the Block programming concept.

Through this program students-

- deconstructed problems into simpler steps
- identified patterns
- spotted out abstract details
- applied logical reasoning to problems
- automated solutions for problems

Khan Academy for classes VI and VII

In this academic year 2021-22 we re-booted Khan Academy for students of Class VI and VII. Khan Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom.

Objectives: Students will be able to

- focus on skill mastery which helps them to establish strong foundations, so there's no limit to what they can learn next!

It is conducted once a week during the Math period where teachers assign the assignments related to the concepts taught in that particular week. Sometimes teachers also assign assignments from the previous class as a diagnostic test just to test the previous knowledge and concept level of the class or as a revision too.

Playing with Shapes for Class VIII –

Playing with Shape developed by Mrs. Manjushri Dhume is a pilot project that has been implemented for Class VIII. It is a series of Origami based online activities to review and recall foundation-level geometry concepts.

Manjushri Dhume, an IITian is the Founder of Learn Quest. Her organization, Learn Quest, makes Mathematics fun for children.

Scope:

- Students will progress from simply recognizing some shapes to discussing the figures in terms of specific geometric properties by doing these activities.
- Going further, they will use these properties to reason out the missing information and in problem-solving.
- This journey will help them firm up the base and develop the necessary reasoning skills required in geometry.

Meet My Teacher!!

It had been more than one and half years since the children had not met their teachers and friends. We were longing for them to come to school and meet their friends and teachers too. To bring back the memories of school life and to rekindle the flames of joy of coming to school and bonding with friends and teachers, we had planned a 'Meet My Teachers Day' in the last week of September and first week of October. Each CT had planned an interesting and an engaging activity for the students for the time they were in school! Activities ranged from making bookmarks, penning their thoughts, doodling etc.

Some mandates and covid protocols were strictly followed. As a responsible school, we assure that all the Covid related SOP's like wearing masks at all times, sanitization and maintaining social distancing will be strictly adhered to by all while they are in school.





Participation in Interschool events

Online platform did not deter students from participating in inter school competitions and winning accolades.

1. In the month of August, Kalmadi High School organised an online Mathemania Inter-school Math competition for students of Class VII and VIII. Following students participated in the same. They were selected on the basis of their academic scores in Math from earlier levels.

Ujwal Thota entered the final round which took place on 24th August 2021.

2. TED Titans, an online interschool competition was arranged by G.K. Gurukul, where students needed to send their videos of speeches on innovative expressions.

Swara Joshi of Class V was the 2nd Runner up in Group 1 (V & VI)

3. Space Challenge 2021 – ATL

Another exciting opportunity by AIM in collaboration with ISRO for school! Niti Aayog & Atal Innovation Mission in collaboration with ISRO and CBSE launched Space Challenge for school students across India. It is an initiative to celebrate the nation-wide Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to support the young innovators and introduce them to newer technologies and skills.

Students of “The Orchid School” also participated in the Space Challenge Program 2021. We have sent our Team Entry for a leveraged space theme. TOS teams consisted of Anmol Gangrade, Ansh Gangrade and Urjita Ratti of class VII. They created a physical model of laser debris cleaner to clear the space debris under the leverage space theme.

4. Program for Schools by La Fondation Dassault Systemes, India

In collaboration with Atal Innovation Mission – NITI Aayog, Government of India

Along with 51 schools nationwide, The Orchid School is one of the participating schools. TOS is participating as level 2 schools this year along with being a nodal school to guide the new schools who have entered this year.

The program will continue till March and students will explore, ideate and market their products and will get trained to become future entrepreneurs. The team comprises two teachers and six students. The teacher representatives for this program are Bhagyashree Kadam and Purva Gangrade.

The students team are as follows:

1. Anushka Basu – VIII
2. Meet Deore -- VIII
3. Avaneesh Nisal – IX
4. Arav Shah – X
5. Sameer Datar – X
6. Aranya Misra - X

Students have taken the challenge to improvise their existing product by adding more features and functionalities and introducing the concept of biomimicry in their product.

We closed the first term by inviting students to the Diwali party where they mingled with each other and the teachers and spent quality time. They created lovely lanterns, diya holders, torans and greeting cards for gifting their loved ones.



May the occasion of Diwali bring along more reasons to smile, more reasons to enjoy and more reasons to party for you.. Wishing a very Happy Diwali to you dear students and parents....See you soon!!!



-Anjali Di

Unit Head-Middle Domain

anjagiraghuram@theorchidschool.org