

**GEMS**

United Indian School  
ABU DHABI



جيمس

مدرسة جيمس الهندية المتحدة

# NEWSLETTER

## CYCLE 1

January, 2021 Issue



HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR



*Another beautiful year of learning, sharing and caring.....*

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear UIS Fraternity,

We invariably transform into what we believe we are! UIS belief system is built on the tenet “we see genius in every child”! To create a learning field that accentuates our belief, we have adopted the HPL philosophy and framework with effect from April 2021.

HPL (High Performance Learning) is a research-based, pedagogy-led philosophy that responds to our growing understanding of human capability. It sees all students as potential high performers who are not limited by ability. Some may take longer to reach high performance, but most are capable of this over time.

High Performance Learning makes the goal of high performance the expectation for all students in the school and uses a unique teaching and learning framework to systematically grow minds and develop the cognitive skills, values, attitudes and attributes needed to reach success.

As we adopt this strategy starting April 2021, our teachers will go through continuous training to facilitate the HPL framework. It is not only the teachers but the students as well as you as parents who will be required to walk with us as we progress on this journey. As a result, the whole-school community develops a performance mindset and professionally reflective teachers, who become more ambitious for students and themselves to be high achievers.

It will be a significant achievement for UIS as we will be the first Indian school in the world to be awarded the HPL Status. High Performance Learning significantly improves student academic outcomes, creates students who have the values, attitudes and attributes that enable them to meet the challenges of adult life and enables the school to achieve these outcomes consistently. All sections of our school will share with you the processes and procedures that we need to adopt to get HPL compliant. Looking forward to a very successful year ahead, I wish each of you a safe and secured future!

Warm Regards  
**K. George Mathew**  
Principal/CEO

# VICE PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear and Valued Students and Parents of GEMS UIS,

Trust you are keeping safe and are healthy!

What an absolute thrill it is to be part of the new and challenging academic year that lies ahead! As Principal K. George Mathew has introduced High Performance Learning to GEMS UIS, it is an exciting journey that we are about to embark and will need all your support and collaboration to make it an absolute success!



The expectations of HPL do not surprise us as we are already incorporating most of what they expect but yes, we will work on further improving our provision of learning. As we gear up to develop your child into a high performing learner, we are preparing our teachers to be high performing teachers. We are excited to work on your child's cognitive characteristics, values and attitudes. High Performance Learning focuses on helping to create the optimal conditions for individual students to reach success. We are all aware that whilst schooling is the important formal context for learning, parents and families are by far the most important influences in a child's life. Your support can therefore play a vital role at all stages of education.

High performing learning will happen better with highly supportive parents:

You may ask what you can do. Well here are behaviours of highly supportive parents:

- Expect your child to have the ability to achieve highly and show them that you have confidence in them.
- Praise your child for their efforts because this encourages a 'growth' mindset. So 'well done for trying that out or for sticking at that till you completed it' or 'you are so much better at that than you used to be' or 'do you remember when you could only...', etc.
- Encourage curiosity and the habit to seek answers from school, grandparents, parents, siblings, the library or the internet.
- Talk and read with your child and help them connect up ideas
- Give them responsibility and don't worry if they make mistakes
- Show that you like learning as well and that as an adult you are learning new things each day at work and at home.

What can UIS HPL students do?

There is no limit to what you can do and what you can achieve. Here are few values and attitudes that you will be working on;

- We will work together to collaborate a lot more and show concern for society. We will work to make you more confident in all that you do.
- You know that we love to have you to ask questions so we will do more of that while making you more creative and try new things in learning.

As HPL students you will be working hard and practicing your work till you become perfect without giving up and sticking to the task given.

This is just a little look of what more awaits our dearest students in April 2021!

Warm regards,

**Shaikh Murad Sarfraz**  
**Vice-Principal**

# SUPERVISORS' MESSAGE



Dear Parents,

We hope you are healthy and doing well; we are thinking of you and missing our students more than ever! We want to thank you for your patience, empathy, and unwavering support; this has been so appreciated by our staff. We recognize that it can be challenging for families to keep apprised of the weekly schedules, assignments and numerous opportunities for students to connect with teachers online. We've designed this newsletter, which will be sent monthly, to help keep our families informed. We encourage parents to reach out to our teachers if your child has questions or needs assistance. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility as we continue to develop learning opportunities for our students through distance learning.

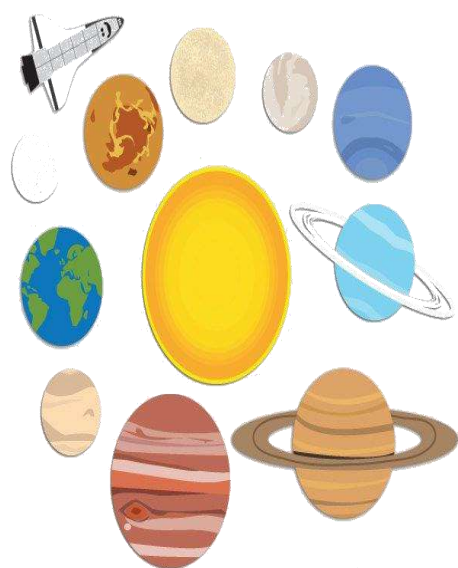


Most importantly, our Cycle 1 teachers are working incredibly hard to provide engaging assignments, projects, and instructions while working to be as interactive with our students as they can be to keep them connected and engaged in school. Like you, our teachers are accomplishing this feat from the confines of their households with their own children and families. I commend our teachers and staff for the stellar job they are doing considering the extreme nature of circumstances that led to the abrupt closing of our school facilities.

As per the GEMS manifesto- 'We see genius in every child', we are quite excited to say that UIS will be adopting the HPL philosophy and framework with effect from April 2021. As we take the extra mile, all teachers of UIS will be trained to develop each and every student (rather than just covering content) and create new ways of thinking about and teaching their subject. Alongside, students will be encouraged and empowered to succeed. With High Performance Learning, they will develop the values and skills they need to be in college, work and life-ready. Everyone linked to GEMS UIS School is part of this unique journey towards excellence. We continue to work to embed this strategy into the fabric of everything that we do at GEMS UIS and welcome you to join us in learning more about High Performance Learning. Until then, stay well and stay safe!

Warm regards !

**Mrs. Priya Sonnakula**  
**Mrs. Chitra. Seshadri**



# THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE SPACE

## *Exploring the Solar System*

To understand the dynamics of rotation and revolution in the solar system, the students of Grade 2 were exposed to a hands on activity using oranges and solar system models.

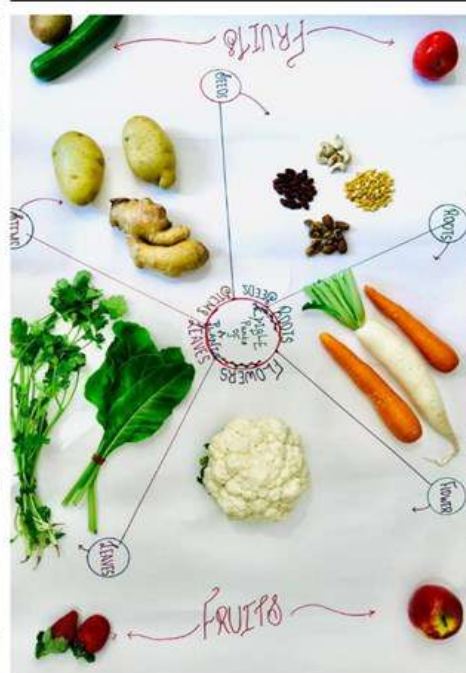
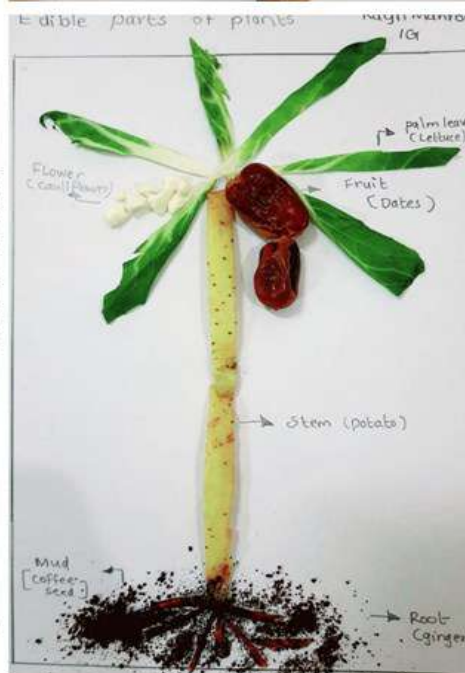
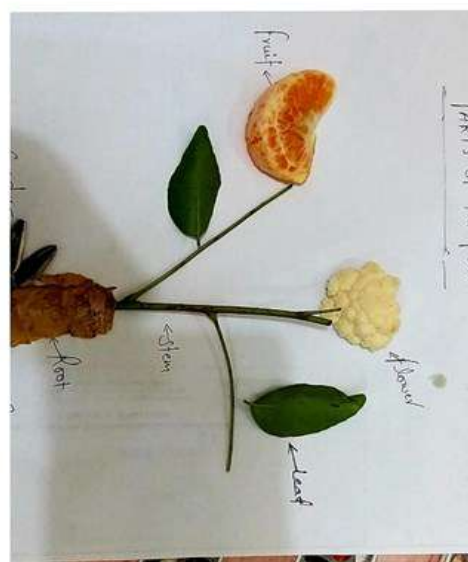
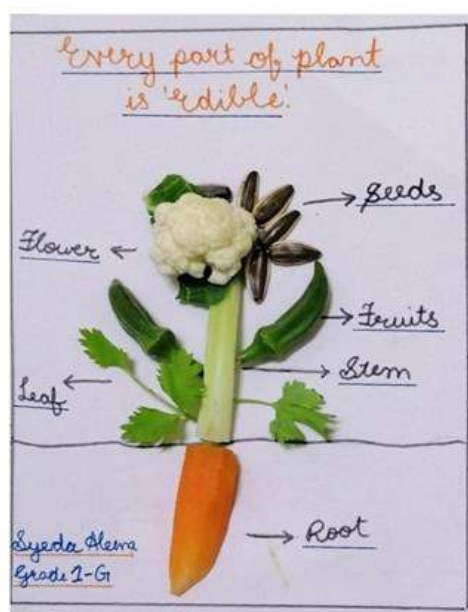




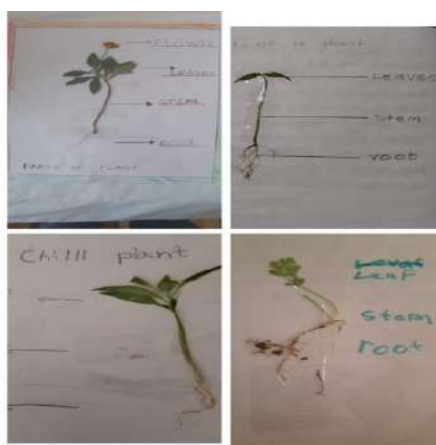
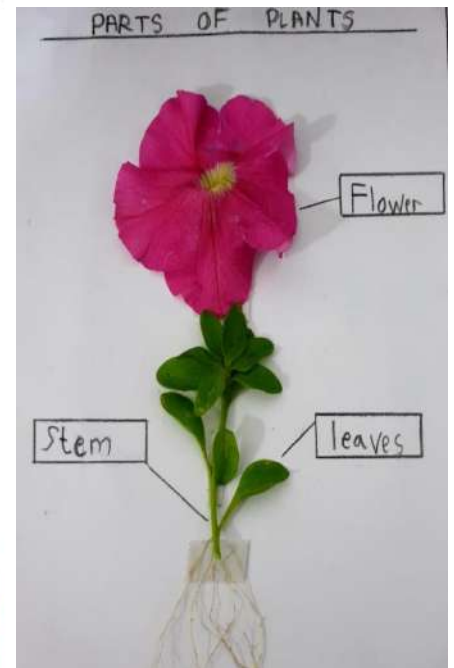
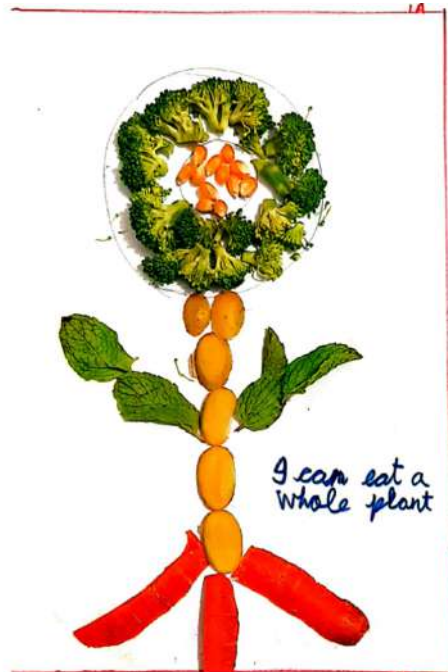
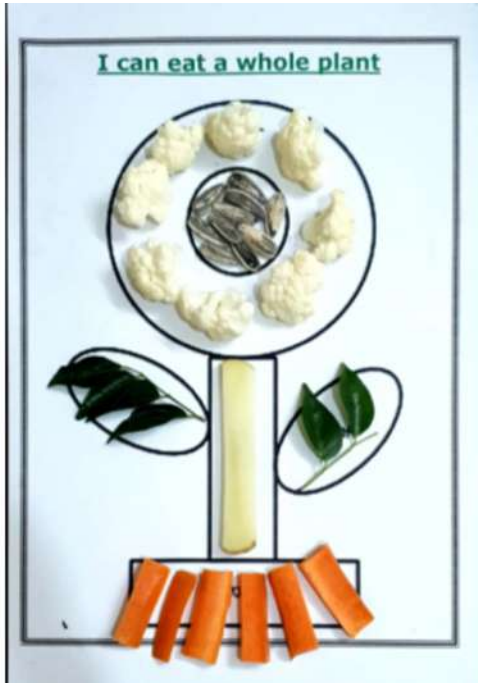
# THE GIVING PLANT

## *A lesson on plant's resourcefulness*

Grade 1 students developed an understanding of the parts of a plant and its edibility through a fun enriching activity. Students collected plant based food items and categorized them as roots, stem, seeds, fruit, leaves and flowers.

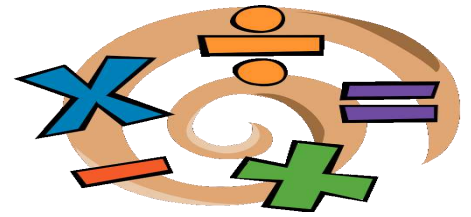


# THE GIVING PLANT (contd.)

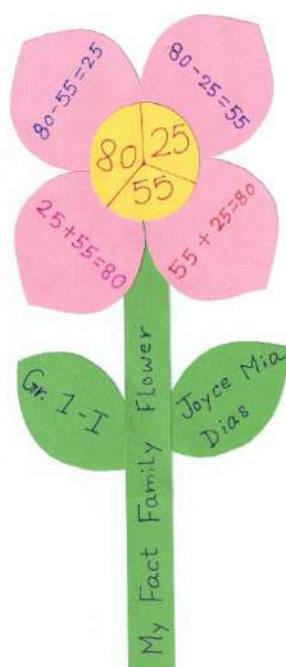
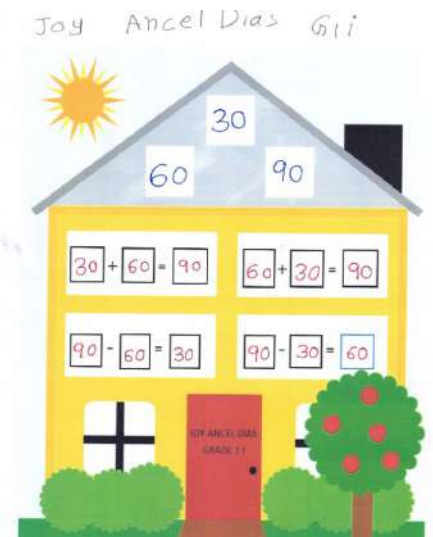
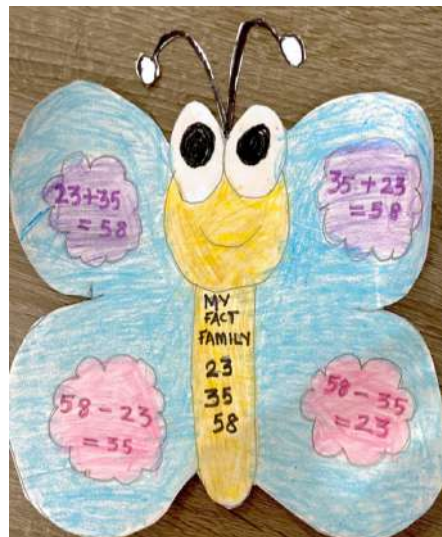
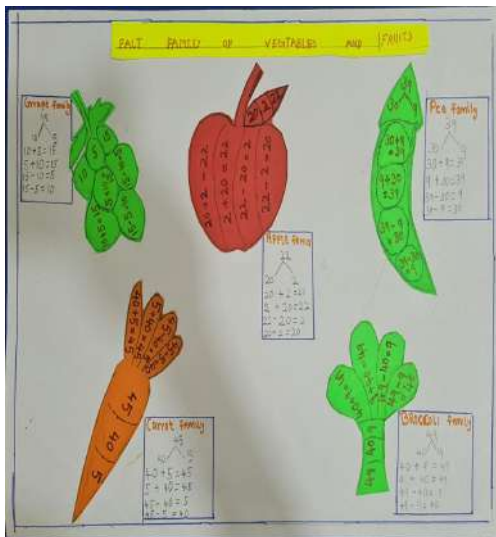


# MATH FACT FAMILY

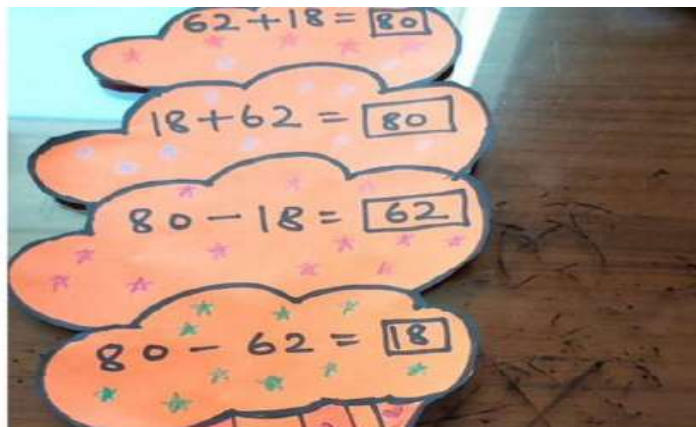
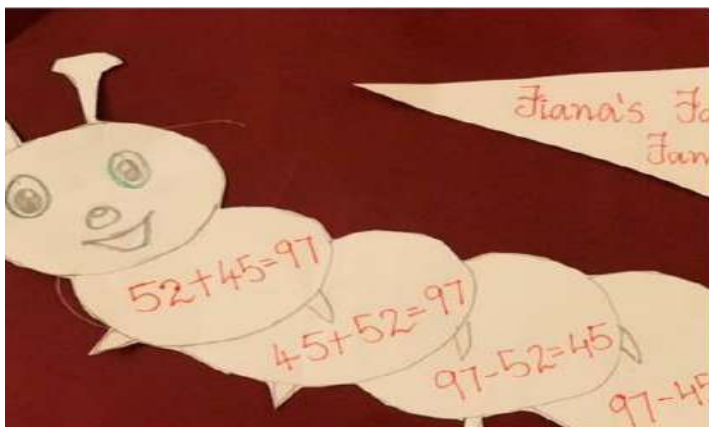
## Making Mathematics Fun



Students of Grade 1 were provided conceptual math practice with a fun activity titled 'Math Fact Family'. Students enjoyed exploring the inverse relationship between numbers and representing them on their creative artwork like flowers, ice cream, house, butterfly, etc.



# MATH FACT FAMILY (contd.)



# OUR TUCK SHOP

## *Promoting entrepreneurship skills*



One of the best ways for kids to learn about entrepreneurship is through hands-on activities where they are taking part in a live setting. With this in mind, an activity was organized for grade 2 students where they set up a tuck shop and learnt all about money, budgeting, buying and selling.



GEMS TOY MART					
Date: 8-1-2021			Time: 16:30		
Sl. No	Item Name	Unit Price	Quantity	Amount	
1	Slime	AED 46	1	AED 46	
2	hard clay	AED 22.50	2	AED 45	
3	soft	AED 64.50	1	AED 64.50	
4	clay	AED 60	1	AED 60	
5	clay toy	AED 12	1	12	
Total Amount				222.50	
Amount paid				235	
Balance				12.50	

# OUR TUCK SHOP (contd.)



# We got SOLUTIONS

## *Science of Solubility*



Students of Grade 4 conducted a fun experiment to investigate the solubility of different solutes in water. They represented their observations from the experiment in a tabular data form.



Material 1	Material 2	Material 3	Material 4
Normal water	slow	slow	not dissolving
After adding hot water	fast	little fast	not dissolving
After stirring	normal	normal	not dissolving
When more solute is added	slow	slow	not dissolving
Time taken to dissolve	fast	slow	not dissolving

Result: Material 1 dissolved quickest on hot water



Observation sheet			
Solubility	Gram flour	Sugar	Salt
Solubility in normal water	Not soluble	Not soluble	Not soluble
Solubility after adding hot water	Not soluble	Partly soluble	Partly soluble
Solubility after stirring	Not soluble	Soluble	Soluble
Solubility after more solute is added	Not Soluble	Soluble	Soluble
Time taken for each material to dissolve	Didn't dissolve	Fast	Fast

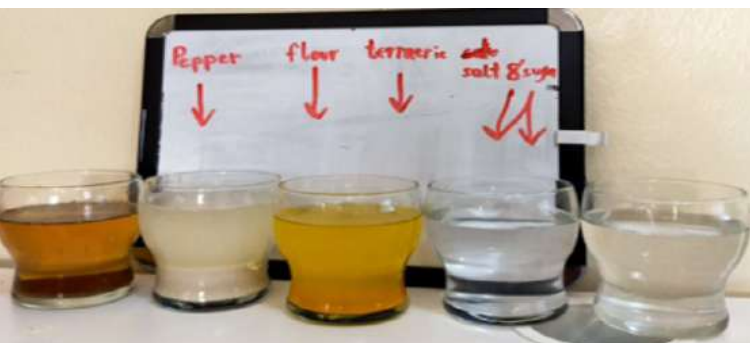
Sugar dissolved quickly in water on hot water

# We got SOLUTIONS! (contd.)



SOLUBILITY	1	2	3	4	5
SOLUBILITY IN NORMAL WATER	SALT POWDER ON BOTTOM	SUGAR POWDER ON BOTTOM	TURMERIC POWDER ON BOTTOM	PEPPER POWDER ON BOTTOM	GODHUNTA POWDER ON BOTTOM
SOLUBILITY AFTER ADDING HOT WATER	POWDER ON TOP	POWDER ON TOP	POWDER ON TOP	POWDER ON TOP	POWDER ON TOP
SOLUBILITY AFTER STIRRING	POWDER INVISIBLE	POWDER INVISIBLE	POWDER INVISIBLE	POWDER INVISIBLE	POWDER INVISIBLE
SOLUBILITY WHEN MORE SOLUTE IS ADDED	POWDER VISIBLE	POWDER VISIBLE	POWDER VISIBLE	POWDER VISIBLE	POWDER VISIBLE
TIME TAKEN FOR POWDER TO DISSOLVE	3 MIN	2 MIN	4 MIN	2 MIN	1 MIN

ARMANUDDIN 4-B					
	Pepper MATERIAL 1	Sugar MATERIAL 2	Salt MATERIAL 3	Turmeric MATERIAL 4	Flour MATERIAL 5
SOLUBILITY IN NORMAL WATER	Less	less	less	less	less
SOLUBILITY AFTER ADDING HOT WATER	Less	less	less	less	less
SOLUBILITY AFTER STIRRING	Less	fully	fully	less	less
SOLUBILITY WHEN MORE SOLUTE IS ADDED	Less	Fully	fully	less	less
TIME TAKEN FOR EACH MATERIAL TO DISSOLVE	N/A	1 min	1 min	N/A	N/A



# What is the Time?

## *Creative clock making activity*



Students of Grade 4 developed their accuracy of time telling through this fun and creative clock making activity using foodstuff.

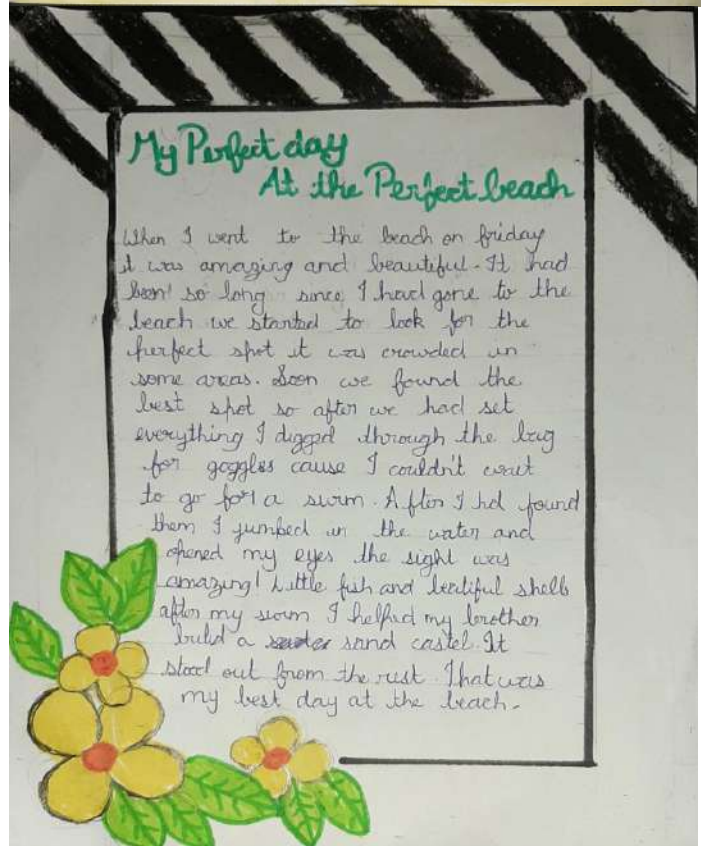
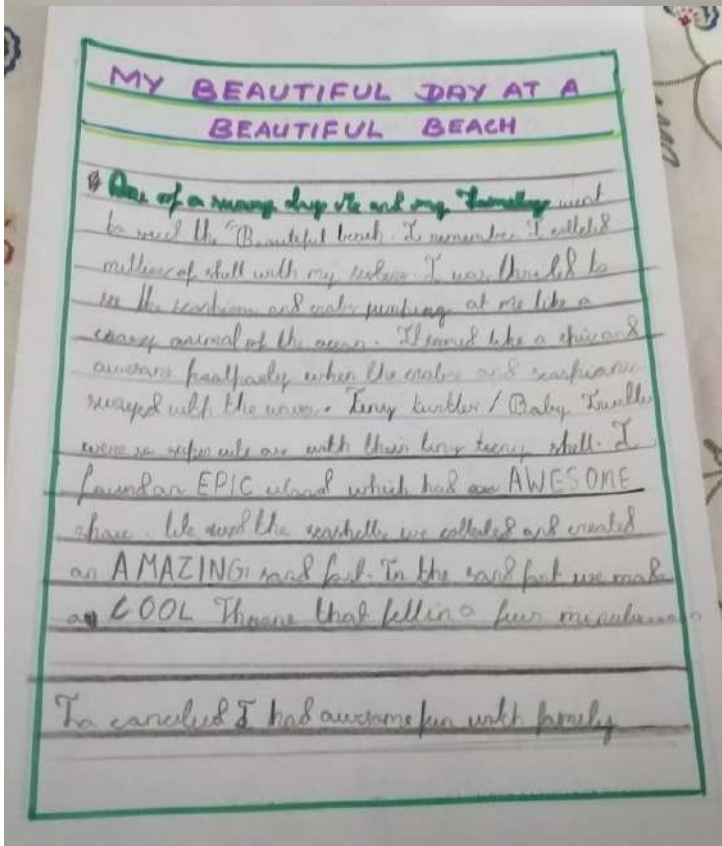


# Creating a Setting

## *Young authors at work*



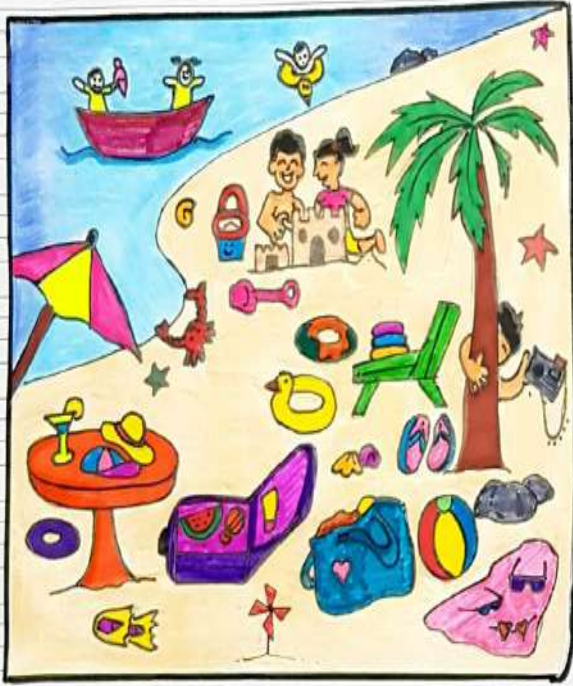
To improve student's story writing skills and their understanding of setting as a story element, students of Grade 5 designed a setting of a beach and described it. This activity aimed at integrating art with English creative writing skills.



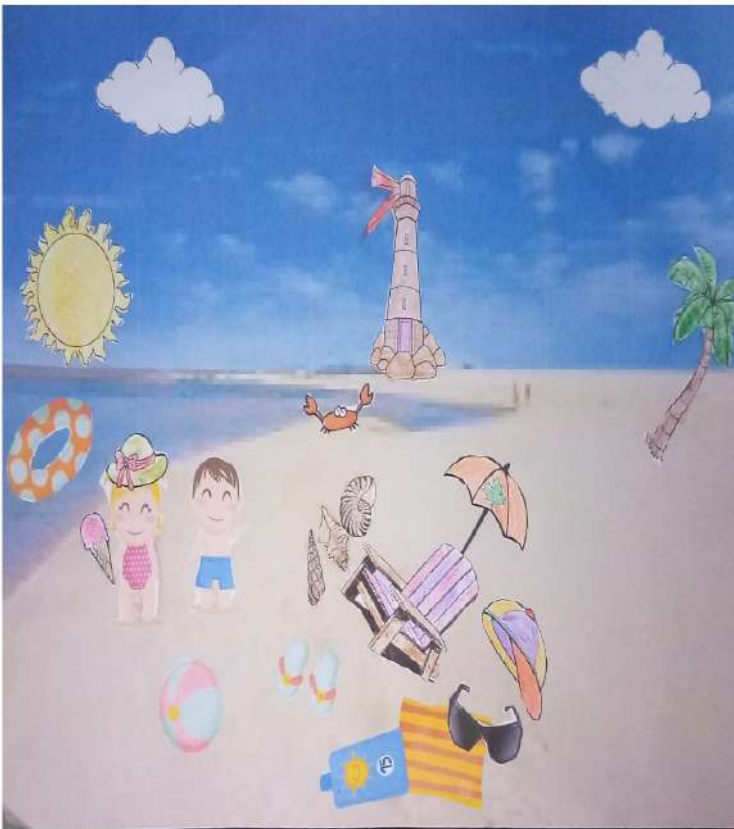
## Creating a Setting (contd.)

30/11/20  
A.W.

### My Beautiful Day At A Beautiful Beach



I went to a beautiful beach last Friday. There I saw many beautiful things that caught my eyes. The sun looked like a fresh orange and the clouds marched in the sky. The tall coconut tree was giving a lot of shade for the sun-bed. There were many colorful starfishes on the beach. I also saw a red crab crawling near sea-shells. There were many swimming tubes for us. In the beach I saw two kids making a sand castle and a boy clicking many pictures. I found a whelldorow in the sand beside the bags. I loved the way how the waves of the sea rushed to the sand. I saw many people having fun in water too!



DATE: 6/12/2020  
PAGE:

### My Beautiful Day at a Beautiful Beach

Last Friday, I went to a beautiful beach with my cousins and parents. I had so much fun with them. We laughed and played football and volleyball. Then we split up in pairs to build sand castle. My cousin and I built a really beautiful one and used chocolates as prize. Then we collected shells and polished them to turn them into keychains. I saw that the elders were flying kites. We played in the water for sometime and watched the amazing sunset returned home after that.

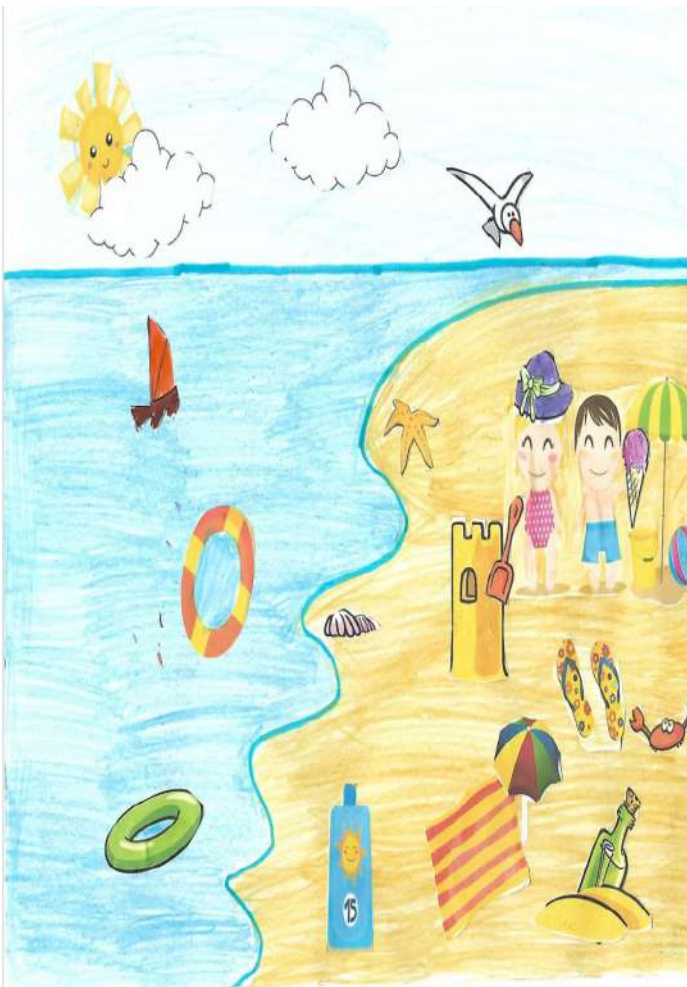
## Creating a Setting (contd.)



### Beach Drawing - Activity

If I were to picture a beach there would be a lot of palm trees around some cozy carpet with an umbrella to get some shade. there would be a radio playing my favourite music. There would be lots of shells with unique shape and pattern. There would also be a small sand castle with a moat around it. When I think of a beach the main sea creature I would find is crabs! they would crawl all around the place and then there would be a small yacht zooming across the water.

- Vishal Bopra SE



## SETTING

I went to a beautiful beach last Friday. There I saw only a girl and a boy in the beach. It was odd. She was just finishing up her sand castle and he was eating Ice-cream. Right in front of them, a crab was ready to pinch the slippers! In front of the crab I saw a bottle with a paper or a scroll inside. Could it be a treasure map? It was a hot and a very bright sunny noon. There were sea-shells and a starfish and a sail in the water. I see a seagull flying in the sky. I And I hear and smell the waves in the sea.



# 72nd Indian Republic Day Special Assembly

GEMS UIS hosted the 72nd Indian Republic Day Celebrations virtually. Despite the pandemic crisis, and being away from our homeland we surely did not miss out on celebrating this special day by bringing out the patriotic and nationalistic fervor which is deeply imbibed in us.

Hosts Shaivi and Agnivesh led us through the assembly



Quran recitation and translation by  
Md. Safwan and Md. Affan



Indian National  
Anthem played by  
Samuel



School prayer by  
Afsheen



Pledge by Chris



'Vande Mataram' sung and  
played by Adharv Sajeer



Speech by Sheesha and Sarah in Hindi and English respectively



Vote of Thanks by Haleema

## 72nd Indian Republic Day Special Assembly (contd.)



## 72nd Indian Republic Day Special Assembly *(contd.)*



## Choristers of Grades 1 to 5



## Dance by Grade 4



## Dance by Grade 5



## Parade by Grade 1



# Student Achievements

## *Celebrating your Success*



**Inayah Fathima Faez** of class 4G participated in the Shakespearean Creativity Challenge organized by Delhi Public School, Ajman. She was selected as one of the top 10 finalists from about 60+ participating schools. Her creative story entry for the competition titled 'Joy and Despair' is featured below.

### JOY AND DESPAIR

Martha and Rowan watched enviously as I landed on the trampoline.

"HIGHER!" They cheered in an ear-splitting yell. I jumped high. But then, my surroundings dissolved into nothingness. I could not utter anything. I landed somewhere and scrambled to my feet. Far off, I saw a sign that read:

PLANET EXCITEMENT SAYS HELLO! Unsuspecting humans, please note that you have got here because you got overexcited about something. One of our wingless fairies will help you get back.

I thought about this strange place for a while. A planet I had never learned about before. I had ended up there because I got excited about impressing my friends. I went further in and saw a sight that almost made my jaw hit the floor.

Waterfalls gurgled and streams flowed amidst lush green meadows which had multi-colored blades of grass sprouting everywhere, accompanied by huge fragrant flowers that smelled like the things that I most adored near cute little cottages. Tiny people stood here and there watering plants with an opaque liquid that elevated the plant's level of beauty. It was raining heavily but it barely touched anyone. I received a feather to touch to get home. I explored more until I reached a sign that read:

RESTRICTED TEACHING AREA

I was curious so I ignored the sign and opened the double doors behind the sign and gasped. Children were being taught about keeping their planet as it was for generations. But I was dumbstruck seeing that they were teaching with earth as an example. They knew what would happen if they treated their land like humans are treating their own planet.

I was so appalled that my finger hovered over the feather. While I got transported back to earth in a whirlwind of colors, I vowed to myself that I would help mother earth with everything that I could do and convince my family and friends to do the same. I sprang into action immediately so that the next time I get too excited about something, I can teach the little aliens a thing or two about how great it is to be on earth!

# Student Achievements (contd.)



**Sajini Varadharajan** of class 5C has achieved a list of laurels to her credit. She has secured UAE National Rank: 2 and bagged a silver medal in the English Olympiad conducted by International Olympiad Foundation. Being a budding young writer, Sajini has added another feather to her cap by publishing her second book which is a sequel to her first titled 'The Adventures of the Super Juniors'. Her book is available on Amazon. <https://amzn.to/2KZxgZZ>

International Olympiad Foundation  
Results for the National Qualifier October/November 2020

Name of Candidate: Sajini Varadharajan  
Candidate ID: IOF20-050200  
Grade/Year: GRADE 5  
School Name: United school of banyas

**Qualifier: National English Qualifier**  
**UAE National Rank: 2**  
Congratulations! You have won a silver medal

Note:  
1. If you find any errors with regards to student name, please write to admin@olympiads.org within 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Any discrepancies reporting after the stipulated time will not be taken into consideration.  
2. Amid current situation of Covid-19, the felicitation function for the achievers won't be conducted this year. Students can collect the medals from the respective exam centres. Certificates will be available to you in digital format. Details will be communicated to you shortly regarding the same.

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**The Adventures of the Super Juniors Paperback – January 4, 2021**  
by Sajini Varadharajan (Author)

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# Student Achievements (contd.)



**Ken John** of class 1G and **Ben Tom** of class 3F participated in the International Hindi Olympiad organized by Hindi Vikas Sanstha, Delhi and have secured a gold and silver medal respectively at the school level. Congratulations students on your remarkable achievement!

With lightning quick fingers, **Swadip Mahajan** of class 1G is aiming to be the fastest speed cuber. His current best is 1 minute and 45 seconds to solve a 3x3 Rubik's cube.





## Poet's Corner

### *Say it with a Poem*

Poem is a creative expression of one's thoughts and experiences through language. Celebrating the inner poet in them, students share their original lines on varied topics.

## WORK

- By Ethan Sam (4E)

Work, work, work, we do work every day.

If we push or pull an object and if the object moves it's called work done.

But if we push or pull an object and if the object does not move, it is called work not done.

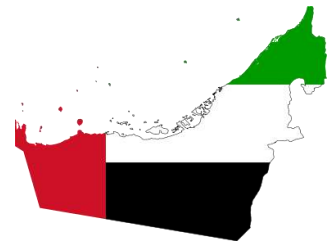
And the formula is  $\text{Work} = \text{Force} \times \text{Distance}$   
Work, work, and work we do work every day.

$$\text{Work} = \text{Force} \times \text{Distance}$$



### NATIONAL DAY

- By Naman Bhardwaj (5A)



To celebrate this day  
This is the only way  
Remember Sheikh Zayed  
Who made this to say  
Happy National day  
We live here together  
Because of great leader  
His idea of tolerance  
Is a key to prosper  
Neither let it swing  
Nor sway

Happy National day  
Unity in diversity was  
His vision and mission  
His wealth was his people  
With whom he made  
He spread love to all  
To keep foe away  
Happy National day  
Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed  
The present ruler

Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid -AlMaktoum  
Prime Minister

Taking Forward the legacy  
And together they say  
Happy National day

### **A STARRY NIGHT!**

**- By Aditi Arun Narayanan (5E)**

I looked up to the sky,  
Oh My!  
What a beautiful night!

The light was shone from the full moon,  
As the essence of my surrounding was serene.

The teeny, tiny stars  
Made me wish if I could see the Mars!

I opened the windows  
While I heard the jungle roars.

I closed my eyes and laid down.

What a wonderful sight!  
What a wonderful night!



### THE FOREST

- By Gayatri Sreekumar Nair (5C)

The forest is like the dark side of the moon,  
She is an angel to good souls,  
And helps them out.  
But she can be a devil  
Trapping the bad apples forever  
Shall they see daylight again? Never  
Unless they change their ways  
On full moons she is the most graceful dancer  
Swaying her branches  
To the melody of the wind  
Every being in her forest she controls  
She is guide to lost souls  
And a house for others  
She inspires artists  
She can be the scariest  
Our mind is like this forest



### MY PENCIL CASE

- By Jahnvi Saraswat (5B)



My new pencil case ,  
as beautiful as a flower ,  
it is so shiny that ,  
I think it took a shower.  
The color is so red ,  
as red as my blood.  
If anyone's going to break it ,  
my tears will cause a flood.

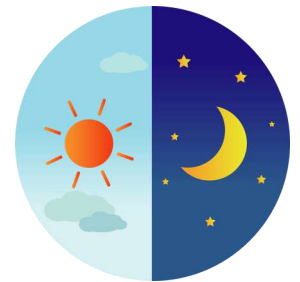


### TIME

- By Yordanos Zelalem (5B)



As time ran away  
like how people say,  
my alarm clock sang  
its merry tune,  
so get up and walk across the dune  
school shouted welcome,  
learning was fun  
school was done  
and to do work was none  
my home missed me and so did I  
time passed away and it was night time,  
then morning and once again school time



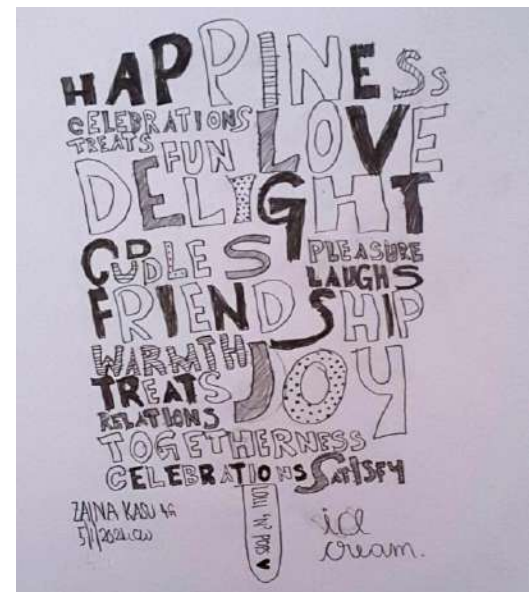


# Art Corner

Theme: Christmas and New Year



# Art Corner (contd.)





For regular news updates and latest happenings at GEMS UIS follow us on:



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