

**Vol - 6 (2)**

**December 2024- January 2025**



# **CIS HERALD**

**Monthly E-Magazine published by Junior School**



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# Author visit

Calcutta International School had the privilege of hosting renowned author Ilika Ranjan for the second time on December 18, 2024. Ms. Ranjan, beloved by students for her captivating Zynpagua series, returned to the school to launch her latest book, *Dirty Mr. Orlando* and the *Murky Trap: Book One*. During the engaging session, Ms. Ranjan introduced the new book, sparking curiosity and excitement among the students. She conducted an interactive quiz, testing their knowledge of her previous works and the new release. Students enthusiastically participated, showcasing their love for her storytelling. Winners of the quiz were thrilled to receive signed copies of *Dirty Mr. Orlando* and the *Murky Trap* directly from the author herself. The event further strengthened Ms. Ranjan's connection with the young readers, who eagerly requested her to return next year with the next installment of both the Zynpagua series and her latest book. The visit was a memorable celebration of literature, creativity, and the joy of connecting with a beloved author.



# Counselling sessions in Grades 1 & 2

*Spreading Love and Acceptance and prioritising safety.*

The School Counsellors, Farishta Dastur Mukerji and Sukonna Halder had conducted sessions with the Grade 2 on 30th October, 2024 on 'Inclusion and accepting differences'. The session focused on the concept of inclusion, aiming to help students understand the importance of accepting and supporting classmates with diverse abilities, backgrounds, and needs. The activity was designed to foster empathy, kindness, and respect while promoting an understanding of differences in a fun and engaging way. The students demonstrated an understanding of the concept of inclusion, with many commenting on the importance of helping others and treating everyone equally. The session tried to foster a sense of community, where students felt comfortable discussing their differences and expressing support for one another. The students actively participated in the discussion and contributed meaningfully. The class showed a good understanding of empathy, with several students mentioning how they could help others feel included in future activities.





On 19th December 2024, the school Counsellors conducted a session on body safety focusing on safe and unsafe touch, for Grade 1 students. The primary aim of the session was to educate young children about recognizing boundaries, understanding the importance of personal safety, and knowing how to respond in situations involving unsafe touch. Body safety is an important topic for young children, helping them understand their rights and how to protect themselves so they can stay safe and confident. The session included simple and interactive discussion about the human body and personal space, emphasizing the concept of body autonomy. The students were explained the difference between safe touches (those that make children feel cared for and comfortable) and unsafe touches (those that make them feel uncomfortable, scared, or confused). The session highlighted the importance of identifying trusted adults, such as parents, teachers, or caregivers, and encouraged children to share their feelings or concerns openly. Students were actively engaged through interactive questions and scenarios, which allowed them to practice recognizing and responding to unsafe situations. The session concluded with a reiteration of their right to feel safe and respected and a reinforcement of the key messages – a) Saying No firmly to any unsafe touch, b) Going away to a safe place and c) Telling a trusted adult about the incident immediately.



# Wiping Out Bad Habits, One Poster at a Time!

The Junior School Student Council members took the lead in promoting good toilet etiquette among students in Grades 1-5. They delivered an informative talk, emphasizing the significance of maintaining clean toilets and encouraging responsible habits. The council members engaged with the students, addressing their questions and gathering feedback to further improve toilet facilities. Key topics discussed included water conservation, soap usage, and responsible toilet paper use. To reinforce their message, the council created eye-catching posters for the washrooms, serving as a reminder to students of the importance of practicing good toilet etiquette.

## Grade 1



## Grade 2



## Grade 3





## Grade 4



## Grade 5



# MBWA Relay

## CIS Junior School Shines at Inter-School Relay Race

Our young athletes from CIS Junior School made us proud at the Inter-School Relay Race competition, held as part of Mahadevi Birla World Academy's annual sports meet on December 19, 2024. The CIS Junior School teams consisted of talented students from Grades 3 to 5. The Girls Team comprised Arna Mehta and Vannya Fatesaria from 3A, Anaya Shree Mohta from 4A, and Yaachne Bikky Agarwal from 5A. The Boys Team included Aaryan Roy from 4A, Atharv Narsinghani, Aditya Tripathi, and Raaghav Narayan Reddy from 5A and 5B respectively. We congratulate our young athletes on their participation and enthusiasm, and look forward to their future achievements!





# From Kitchen Garden to table

The kitchen garden project has been thriving beautifully. Saplings sown by Grade 2 and nourished with compost provided by Grade 5 have flourished remarkably. The plants have grown well, yielding fresh vegetables. The spinach and coriander leaves were so vibrant and flavourful that Mrs. Deb prepared a delicious *Palak Patti Chaat* and served it to the other teachers in school, making it a delightful 'Farm-to-Table' experience.



Grade 5 students showing the coriander leaves  
and the lady finger



Teacher's along with Mrs. Nayar enjoying the fresh  
produce- chaat



# Prize Distribution

"Believe you can and you're halfway there." - Theodore Roosevelt

As we conclude the first term of the 2024-25 session, we celebrated the achievements of our Junior section students on December 16th and 17th, 2024. Special ceremonies were held for Grades 1 to 5, where our students were recognized for their academic efforts, good conduct and highest attendance. Mrs. Nayar, Mrs. Choudhary, subject coordinators, teachers, and class teachers were in attendance to acknowledge and appreciate the hard work and dedication of our students. We are proud of each and every one of our students and look forward to seeing them continue to grow and thrive in the new term!

## Students who received the Highest Attendance Certificate



### Grade 1

#### Grade 1A

Effort -

1. Arkdeep Jaiswal
2. Shaurya Chopra
3. Aryaveer Prasad

Conduct - Prisha Hada

Highest Attendance - Prisha Hada

#### Grade 1B

Effort-

1. Simone Pathak
2. Ishaanvi Tantia
3. Pravar Nahata

Conduct- Zoe Xin Ru Lee

Highest Attendance - Simone Pathak





## Grade 2

### Grade 2A

#### Effort-

1. Dravin Chakraborti
2. Nayantara Singh
3. Arjav Goswami

**Conduct-** Nayantara Singh

**Highest Attendance -** Hridaan Gaurav Vora



### Grade 2B

#### Effort-

1. Samara Bagaria
2. Noa Alma Munshi
3. Anay Churiwal

**Conduct-** Anaisha Modi

**Highest Attendance -** Neera Surana



## Grade 3

### Grade 3A

#### Effort-

1. Saesha D. Vora
2. Ananya Kundalia
3. Sitara Kaushik

**Conduct-** Aarav Nirmal

**Highest Attendance -** Asahi Ito,  
Ananya Kundalia, Vannya Fatesaria



### Grade 3B

#### Effort-

1. Meera Dalmia
2. Meher Bhatia Mukherjee
3. Arna Mehta

**Conduct-** Myra Agarwal

**Highest Attendance-** Kaveer Agarwal



## Grade 4

### Grade 4A -

#### Effort-

1. Arohi Agarwal
2. Araddya Tewari
3. Aryahi Chatterjee

**Conduct-** Aadya Jalan

**Highest Attendance-** Devyansh Shah,  
Amay Pasari



### Grade 4B-

#### Effort-

1. Kabir Karnani
2. Daksh Sureka
3. Burhanuddin Rampurawala

**Conduct-** Deon Melai Sankar

**Highest Attendance-** Haiqa Amir



## Grade 5

### Grade 5A

#### Effort-

1. Atharv Narsinghani
2. Taher Rampurawala
3. Aditya Chakravarti

**Conduct-** Maisha Khan

**Highest Attendance-** Kyra Didwania,  
Mishka Tulsyan, Ekansh Sethi,  
Mohor Mukherjee Ghosh, Samaita Praharaj



### Grade 5B

#### Effort-

1. Adishree Bose
2. Aprameya Dhananjay Vaze
3. Kabir Arjun Suri

**Conduct-** Shaswat Gupta

**Highest Attendance-** Ashna Musaddi,  
Avyukt Agarwal, Shivdutti Jalan,  
Aishwarria Chamedia





# Santa visits the Junior Section









# Decking the halls with cheer!

The last day before Christmas break, 20th December 2024, was a joyous celebration at Junior school, filled with music, laughter, and festive cheer. The junior school choir kicked off the morning with a magical performance of Christmas carols, casting a spell of enchantment over the audience. Their lively and melodious rendition of popular Christmas tunes set the tone for a fun-filled day. Following the choir's performance, the class parties began, with students sharing treats and warm wishes with their friends. The excitement was palpable as the students eagerly anticipated the holiday break. And, of course, no festive season would be complete without a visit from Santa Claus! With his jolly "Ho Ho Ho!" and a bag full of candies, Father Christmas spread festive cheer throughout the school. A special mention must be made of Grade 4's 'Sustainable Christmas Tree'. Under the guidance of their Art teacher, Mr. Ritwik Kar, the students created a stunning sustainable Christmas tree made from recycled materials. But that's not all! The colourful decorations on the tree came with a special twist - each one carried heartwarming gratitude messages from the students and teachers of Junior School.







### Our Sustainable Christmas Tree





# Social Service Responsibility

Our students continue their commitment to caring and sharing through the School Social Responsibility initiative. Students from Grades 1 to 5 created heartfelt cards for our sub-staff as a gesture of appreciation for their invaluable contributions.

On the final day of school, the sub-staff members (dadas and didis) were invited in small groups and each received a card along with a chocolate as a small token of thanks for their dedicated work in ensuring the smooth operation of the school. The students also sang some Christmas carols to bring in the holiday cheer. This gesture acknowledged the hard work and commitment these members bring to our school every day.





The warm gesture by the students brought a smile on their faces..

### Grade 1



### Grade 2



### Grade 3





## Grade 4



## Grade 5





# A Fond Farewell:

Mrs. Tania Roy Mukherjee

On 20th December, 2024, the school bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Tania Roy Mukherjee, a dedicated educator and mentor. Her departure leaves an indelible mark on our school community. Mrs. Mukherjee joined us as a History teacher and later took on the role of Humanities Coordinator. Her innovative spirit and tireless efforts transformed the department, introducing initiatives like "The Think Board", the Geography lab, and the podcast. We are grateful for her contributions, which have inspired her students and colleagues. We wish Mrs. Mukherjee all the best for her future endeavors.





# A Fond Farewell:

## Mrs. Geeta Sundas

After 34 remarkable years of dedicated service, Mrs. Geeta Sundas bid farewell to the Calcutta International School family. Joining in 1984, Geeta Didi, a devoted caregiver in the Primary and Junior School, earned the respect and admiration of students, teachers, parents, and colleagues alike. Her unwavering loyalty, sincerity, and commitment to her duties were hallmarks of her illustrious career. Geeta Didi's patient demeanor, even in times of crisis, made her an invaluable asset to the CIS community. Her legacy will be deeply cherished, and she will be profoundly missed.



# Choir performance at Birla Sabhagar

The Junior School Choir in association with the Kolkata Symphony Orchestra performed at the GD Birla Sabhagar. They performed 2 songs.

Sussex Carol having extensive 3 part harmonisation and independent Fugal counterpoint.

The other song Deck the Halls ushers season's greetings and good wishes for a Happy New Year.

The performance was flawless and well balanced in respect to tone and pitch qualities. It was well received by the audience. Aadya Narayan from grade 11 accompanied on the Piano.





# Professional Development

## Times NIE Teacher Meet

On **22nd November**, Mrs. Antara Banerjee from the Junior School and Mrs. Elora Patra from the Senior School attended the annual *Times NIE Teacher Meet* in collaboration with RCC Institute of Information Technology (RCCIIT).

The theme of this year's event was "**AI Capacity Building Program for Schools: Empowering Students with Future Skills**", highlighting the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its growing influence across various sectors.

The discussions focused on the urgent need for integrating AI education at the school level, particularly for grades 8–12, to prepare students with future-ready skills. RCCIIT, in partnership with Intel, outlined strategies to lay a robust foundation for AI education and foster its adoption in schools effectively.

The meet provided valuable insights into bridging the gap between traditional education and modern technological advancements, underscoring the importance of equipping students for an AI-driven future.



# Workshop on Transformative Learning - Sen Department

On 23rd November 2024, SEN dept teachers Mrs. Paushali Raychaudhuri, Mrs. Gargi Sinha Mitra and Mrs Baishakhi Sarkar (HOD\_SEN) participated in a workshop on inclusive education titled "Transformative Learning." This workshop was organized by the Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy.

The objective of the workshop was to explore National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the inclusive strategies for students with special educational needs and gain insights into global trends and practices, focusing on inclusive education in Sweden.

This workshop provided valuable insights into how the NEP has introduced various provisions to support students with diverse needs, including access to assistive devices, technology-based tools, barrier-free environments, and long-term rehabilitation measures. The workshop was highly interactive, featuring engaging activities for participants. CIS representatives had the opportunity to share best practices implemented by the SEN department's special educators, which were well-received and appreciated by the workshop attendees.





## Readers and Writers workshop

Mrs. Shreyaa Dutta Gupta attended a 4-day Readers and Writers Workshop in the last week of November, designed to empower educators in fostering a lifelong love of reading and writing in students. The immersive workshop covered the latest research on reading comprehension, exploring cognitive processes and critical comprehension skills. Participants learned how to implement reading and writing workshops, designing mini-lessons and developing toolkits to support students at different skill levels. The workshop also focused on creating a dynamic learning environment, using language that fosters inquiry and critical thinking. With a deeper understanding of the workshop model and its principles, Mrs. Dutta Gupta is now equipped to enhance literacy outcomes in her students, and is excited to implement these strategies in her classroom.



# Awards

## Calcutta International School shines in India School Merit Awards

Calcutta International School (CIS) was honored at the prestigious "India School Merit Awards 2024-25" ceremony, held at The Taj Bangalore Airport Hotel, Bengaluru on December 10, 2024. Mrs. Pratima Nayar, Principal of the Junior School, proudly accepted the Trophy and Certificate of Achievement on behalf of CIS, which was ranked as the No.1 International School in Kolkata and West Bengal, and an impressive No.14 in India, in the category of Top 20 International Schools offering International curriculum (CAIE/IB), as recognized by Education Today.

**Congratulations!**





A decorative border of green leaves and a central bouquet of red and pink roses. The leaves are arranged in a rectangular frame around the text and flowers. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds.

# *Happy New Year*

Warmest thoughts and best wishes  
for a Happy New Year.

May peace, love, good health and  
happiness follow you always.

# EDITORIAL TEAM

Mrs Sharmila Majumdar, Mrs Neelam Choudhary,  
Ms Kashmiri Marwah, Mrs Shreya DuttaGupta,  
Mrs Rashi Poddar and Mrs Radhika Dhanuka

THANK YOU

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