

COVID-19 SPECIAL



NEWS & VIEWS

June
to
August
2020



'Every cloud has a silver lining.' Though education is the first sector to have been paralysed by the Pandemic and so caused social distancing, still the online education policy of our visionary educators visualised shining stars in the dark, solemn sky. Yes, I am talking about the digital revolution in teaching and learning pedagogy and of course, the teachers who promptly adapted to the new norm entirely overnight by giving uninterrupted education and converted the virtual world into an engaging and lively experience for students.

Besides, our teachers unrelentingly innovated novel/practical techniques of online teaching bringing education to thousands of homes. In fact, teachers emerged as the true heroes who not only continued imparting lessons but actually they boosted the morale of the isolated and embarrassed young learners when nothing could have motivated them. To a great extent, they have managed to maintain normalcy in the face of insurmountable obstacles by imbibing from the techno savvy world - online contests, newspapers, magazines, and webinars. Indeed, following the wave line of this overwhelming situation, education though in a transitional phase, has enthused young minds with positivity, streamlined their thoughts and engaged them in constructive activities at this pinching hour. It has enlightened the whole world amidst despair and pessimism.

I extend my profound gratitude to the teachers, students and their parents for the remarkable accomplishments during the dark times! May God bless you all!

Francis Castelino

UNITY COLLEGE LUCKNOW BOARD EXAM RESULTS 2020

Keeping up with the trend of high scorers in the city, Unity College once again stole the show after the ICSE and ISC results were declared on 10th July. Raising its own benchmark, the College once again recorded stupendous results and these young achievers performed exceedingly well and have produced splendid academic results by maintaining the legacy of scoring 100% result.

ICSE (X): The College registered 115 students and all passed with an average Aggregate of 77.75%



Varisha Zehra topped the College with 94.80% Aggregate (99% marks in Computer Applications).



Sania Zehra stood at 2nd Position with 94.40% (99% marks in Computer Applications).



Afifa Fatima stood at 2nd Position with 94.40% (99% marks in Computer Applications).



Safiya Zehra Aarfi stood at 2nd Position with 94.40% (99% marks in Computer Applications).



Kainat Fatima stood at 3rd Position with 94.00%.

ISC (XII): The College registered 124 students, who passed with an average aggregate of 79.13%.



Samin Raza topped the College with 96.00% aggregate (100% marks in Physical Education).

Yashfeen Fatima stood at 2nd Position with 95.50% aggregate (100% marks in Physical Education).



Mahima Dixit stood at 3rd Position with 95.25% aggregate. (99% marks in Physical Education).

College President Dr. S. Kalbe Sadiq applauded and blessed the hi-fliers to excel in their future pursuits. Secretary Mr. Najmul Hasan Rizvi, Jt. Secretary Dr. M Talha and Principal Mr. Francis Castelino congratulated the students and their parents for the soaring success in the Boards; and the teachers, of course, who have been consistently delivering commendable results in ICSE and ISC Exams for the past few years.

With a 100% pass rate, the A-level results are a testament to the academic success of the College.

UNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Unity Education Program (UEP), project of Tauheedul Muslimeen Trust (TMT) Lucknow, is a free education program for the underprivileged children. It provides a dynamic educational platform for the students in various schools inside and outside Lucknow, wherein TMT not just provides Free Education but also endows free complete uniforms, books and other aids and facilities that the students need.

It's encouraging to witness that these students have started paying back with their exceptionally outstanding performance in the Board Exams. This year once again, the UEP sponsored boys and girls from different schools triumphed against all odds in their Board Exams 2020.

UNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMME	
INTERMEDIATE RESULTS	
Urooj Fatima	79%
Alisha Rizvi	75%
Khairunnisa	74%
Alisha Fatima	73%
Fahmeena Fatima	72%
Mohammad Huzaifa	72%
Aasiya Bano	71%

HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS	
Nashra Fatima	88%
Mohammad Shoaib	87%
Fizza Zehra	86%
Areeza Bano	86%
Naved Haider	85%
Shuja Abbas	85%
Sifat Fatima	85%
Butool Zehra	84%
Azra Fatima	84%
Shabahat Zehra	83%
Iqra Fatima	83%
Aliya Bano	82%
Mohammad Jawwad	82%
Taj Bano	82%
Mohammad Manzoor	82%
Tabassum Bano	82%
Tasneem Fatima	82%
Wafa Fatima	82%
Tanveer Fatima	82%
Yasmeen	81%
Saniya Zehra	81%
Saniya Bano	80%
Mohammad Irshad	80%
Mazahir Ali	80%
Ayaz Abbas	80%
Laiba Haidri	80%
Tayyaba Fatima	80%
Musavvir Abbas	80%

Unity College President, Dr. S. Kalbe Sadiq appreciated and felicitated the students for their exemplary performance. The Secretary of the Trust and the cynosure behind the successful scheme, Mr. Najmul Hasan Rizvi, Manager of Unity Mission School Dr. Kalbe Sibtain Noori and Principal Ms. Shabana Ahmad and UEP Coordinator Mr. Meesum also congratulated the students and wished them for a brighter future and their overall development.

Over and above regular education at school the UEP students are offered regular career counselling sessions, personality development, English speaking classes and Computer literacy courses to upgrade their skills and proficiency so that they may keep pace with time.



Urooj Fatima - 79%



Alisha Rizvi - 75%



Khairunnisa 74%

VIRTUAL KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS 2020 AT UNITY COLLEGE

Unity College solemnly observed the 21st anniversary of the KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS on 26th July, 2020 with an aim to pay tribute to the great martyrs and soldiers of India and to instill the feeling of patriotism among the students. The Primary section held various online activities and competitions for the students to have a better understanding of the significance of nationalism, patriotism, unity and integrity.

For Classes I to III, the *Online Poster Making Activity* was organized via Whatsapp groups which witnessed the kids' enthusiastic participation and artistic skills through an array of posters commemorating the contribution of our valiant warriors and their sacrifices in the Kargil war. Class IV participated in the *Online Speech Contest* scheduled on 26th July on Zoom. The shortlisted nine students delivered a 3- minute speech on Kargil Vijay Diwas. The tiny tots

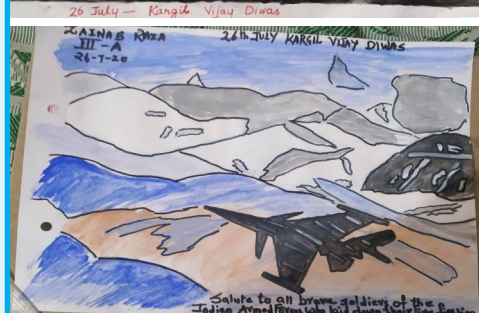
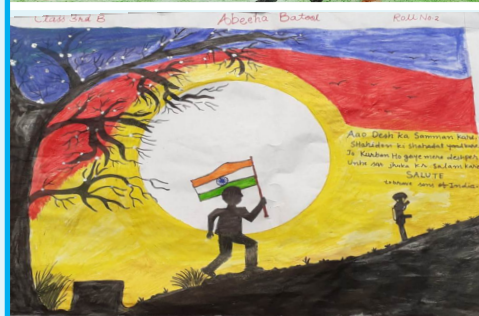
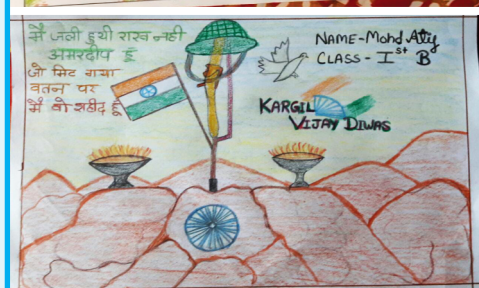
earnestly delivered excellent speeches to evoke the feeling of nationalism and patriotism. Judges Ms. Mahlaqua Siddiqui and Ms. Samana Alam declared the best three orators amongst them. Later in the afternoon on Zoom, the shortlisted students of Class V zealously participated in the *Online Quiz Contest*. The three rounds of quiz questions were designed to assess the students' knowledge of the Kargil conflict including the Param Veer Chakra and Maha Veer Chakra awardees. The students who secured 60% and above in the Quiz and other contests will be given certificates by the College.

Headmistress Ms. Kainaat Mansoor addressed and acknowledged the endeavour of the teachers and students to make this event a remarkable accomplishment. She motivated the children to do their best to safeguard the interest of the nation.

26th JULY 2020, KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS ART COMPETITION

Classes- I to III

CLASS	NAME	POSITION
I B	ZEHRA IBRAHIM	I
I B	MOHD. ATIF	II
I B	MOHD. ATIR	II
I C	BATOOL JAFRI	III
I A	SYED MOHD. ASAD ABBAS	IV
I C	MOHD. HABEEB	V
II B	YOUSUF ABBAS	I
II B	QAMBAR MEHDI RIZVI	II
II A	AREEBA ZAIDI	III
II A	HUDA HAYAT	IV
II C	MD. ARYAB ABBAS KAZMI	V
III B	ABEEHA BATOOL	I
III A	ZAINAB RAZA	II
III C	SARA SAJID	III
III C	ALEY IMRAN	IV
III B	ZAMAN NAQVI	V



26th JULY, 2020 KARGIL DIWAS SPEECH COMPETITION

Class-IV

CLASS	NAME	POSITION
IV-A	FARWA ZEHRA	I
IV-B	TAHZEEN FATIMA	II
IV-A	KANZA ALAM	III

26th JULY, 2020 KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS QUIZ COMPETITION

Class-V

CLASS	NAMES	POSITION
V-B	LAXMAN PRASAD	I
V-B	MEHDIA KAZMI	
V-B	S. IMAAN BUTOOL	
V-A	SUKAINA RIZVI	II
V-A	MIDHAT FATIMA	
V-A	SYED FUZAIL MURTUZA RIZVI	
V-C	UMME KULSOOM	III
V-C	SANAD ALI RIZVI	
V-C	ROHMA ARIF	

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION IN THE COVID CLOUD

The entire premises of Unity College resonated with patriotic melodies of heroism and love for the country since the morning



of 15th August even before the flag hoisting ceremony. As the pandemic has shrouded the whole world and pushed us to the virtual world, this year the celebration of sovereignty was attended only by Secretary Mr. Najmul Hasan Rizvi and the Principals and Section Heads of the Unity Family - Unity College, Unity College II Shift, Unity Training Center, and Unity Veda Animation College, along with the office staff, that was in compliance to the directives of the District Administration. Chief Guest for the Day, Mr. Najmul Hasan Rizvi unfurled the Tri-Colour to the mellifluous tune of the National Anthem.



Carrying forward the service, saplings were planted in the College premises. The idea was to promote greenery on the planet. In conclusion, sweets were distributed to sweeten the grand occasion.

The teachers and children too joined the commemoration from home. Nevertheless, the forced stay at home did not lessen their fervor and zeal for the occasion. Classes VI to VIII participated in the Online Drawing Contest on the burning topic 'Dirt Free, My Village' while Classes IX to XII penned their ideas and impressions on the same topic

in a lucid manner. The aim was to stand united and celebrate together the greatest National Festival with pride and love for the nation on the virtual platform,

besides sensitizing them towards the significance of cleanliness all around. Children, enthused with passion and gusto, keenly participated in the contests to give vent to their innovative ideas, visions, and aesthetic image of a clean India.



The same national spirit prevailed over the plethora of activities in the Pre-Primary and Primary classes. The tiny-tots of Lower Nursery did

craftwork with Tri-Colour papers, Upper Nursery participated in a Fancy Dress Contest dressed up as freedom fighters while Preparatory tried their nimble hands-on painting National Symbols. In the Primary classes, Class I participated in a Fancy Dress Contest dressed up as freedom fighters, Class II engaged in Tri-Colour Craft works, Class III made Posters, Class IV painted T-Shirts and Class V did Tri-Colour No-Flame Cooking. Soon mesmerizing pics of their performances started pouring in the Class-Whatsapp groups. Welcoming was the eye-feasting gallery of Mahatma Gandhi, Rani Lakshmi Bai, Begum Hazrat





Mahal and many more in the fancy dress corner, beautiful Tri-Colour images of the National Flag and patriots in the craft

corner, impressive drawings in the poster corner, and lastly, smart T-Shirts and healthy dishes with the ting of Tri-Colour that witnessed the humble contribution of Nehru's dear children to the national commemoration. All got a window to pay a tribute to our great leaders who struggled to gift



us the invaluable gift of freedom, besides expressing their love for the Nation and respect for the National Flag.

In his message to students, Principal Mr. Francis Castelino urged them to be patient and optimistic during the present crises and to utilize the present time in pursuing individual talents and skills.



He wished them health and happiness, safety and peace, and to be noble and progressive citizens of India.

UNITY AMONG WINNERS OF FANKAR-E-HINDUSTAN 2020 @ UVEDA, LUCKNOW



Unity VEDA Animation College, Lucknow is an extension of VEDA College Pune, Maharashtra. The institution offers Degree, Diploma and Certificate

Courses in Graphic Designing, Web Designing, Animation and Visual Effects. These are approved by UGC and affiliated to YCMOU, Nasik. Equipped with ultra-modern VFX studio and video conferencing classrooms, it facilitates exclusive lessons of renowned Expertise of international repute plus 100% placement. Indeed, it is a hub of internationally recognized and truly hands-on Animation courses designed to help the aspirants gain a foothold in the ground-breaking and inspiring industries of Animation and Visual Effects.

In a bid to come together against the shadowy backdrop of the Global Pandemic and to enthuse positivity, synergy and awareness among children, Unity VEDA: College of Visual Effects, Design & Art, Lucknow organized Fankar-E-Hindustan Competition 2020 - All India Online Painting Competition in the solemn months of June and July.

The large-scale competition was not restricted to any one medium, but the aspirants were given an open opportunity to unleash their novel ideas and aesthetic tastes through watercolors, pastels, pencils, acrylic, crayons, oil paints, charcoal, paper cuttings, etc. A good number of students of Unity College right from Class I to XII participated in all the three categories- A, B & C and made enthusiastic entries of Artistic Expressions.

In group A, Wajeeha Jafri of Class V-C won the 1st prize with her painting depicting the topic, "Precaution and Safety in Covid-19". Principal Mr. Francis Castelino congratulated her and motivated the students to be creative and sprightly always.



UNITY ARTIST GETS FIRST PLACE IN 'THE CORONIALS'



Nisa Rizvi of Class VIII B of Unity College has been honoured as the STAR CORONIAL for her remarkable twin drawing entries. Both her art expressions of COVID -19 got a coveted place on the very first and the fifth page of the first issue of e-mag-The Coronials: A Kid's View of the Pandemic, August, 2020. This e-mag is co-powered by Peek A Book and First Moms Club, and aims to opportune the young reporters to share their stories, experiences and views of the pandemic crisis.



UNITY DAZZLES IN AMU INTERNATIONAL DEBATE CONTEST

Unity College joined the AMU Centenary Celebrations and registered for the International Debate Competition scheduled to be held on the occasion of Independence Day. Since the aim of organizing such a debate was to boost positivity among children amidst the looming negativity of the Covid cloud, the topic read 'Has Covid-19 Brought New Opportunities Too?'

The Judges for the debate were some highly acclaimed and outstanding personalities. Mr. Jayant Krishna-Group CEO-UK India Business Council, Dr. Farah Usmani-Dy. Director - UNFPA, New York & Mr. Ali Khan Mahmudabad - Asst. Professor, Ashoka University.



Azra



Anamta Nasir

In view of the large turnout, the elimination round was held on 13th August. Total six students, four from Unity College Morning Shift and two from the II shift participated in the extempore, out of which Syed Ali Jibran Rizvi, Andleeb Rizvi, Anamta Nasir and Azra Fatima were shortlisted. The eloquence and commitment of the students in the final round on the Independence Day brought laurels to the College. ***Azra Fatima of Unity College II Shift bagged the 2nd Runner Up position with a cash prize of Rs. 2000/- while Anamta Nasir from Unity College bagged the 1st Consolation prize.***

Principal Mr. Francis Castelino appreciated the visionary approach of the Old Boys' Association for providing a wide platform of constructive ideas and sensitivity amidst the dark clouds of the pandemic.

College Secretary Mr. Najmul Hasan Rizvi, Jt. Secretary, Dr. M. Talha and the Principal applauded the winners and motivated all the participants. It was indeed a learning experience and a tough fight.

UNITY REGISTERS IN COVID-19 ONLINE CONTEST, SANSKRITI MANTRALAYA, BHARAT SARKAR

Waqar Fatima of Class VIII C participated in the COVID-19 Online Drawing Contest 2020 organized by Sanskriti Mantralaya, Bharat Sarkar. Waqar received the participation certificate in the 'A' category from Uttar Madhya Kshetra Sanskritik Kendra, Prayagraj. It is praiseworthy that she actively grabbed the opportunity, though she could not clinch any place in the contest. Principal Mr. Francis Castelino acknowledged and appreciated her zealous participation in the Off-Campus Event.

EID E GHADEER / MUBAHELA CONTEST

Care Islam organized Eid-e-Ghadeer / Mubahela Drawing and Painting Competition on the occasion of Eid-e-Ghadeer. The aim was to sensitise the students towards the significance of the historic covenant when the Islamic Prophet (P.B.U.H) was said to have appointed Ali ibn Abi Talib (A.S.) as his successor. The aspirants were expected to express their perception of Eid-e-Ghadeer or Mubahela through colourful art works.

A good number of Unity students participated and won prizes too-

1

Mohammad Zuhair – II B - 1st Prize



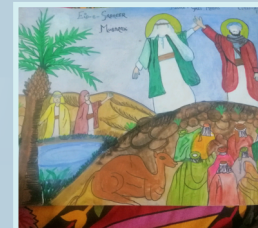
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Zulquarnain Haider – II B - 2nd Prize



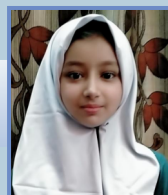
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Ghazi Abbas – II B - 3rd Prize



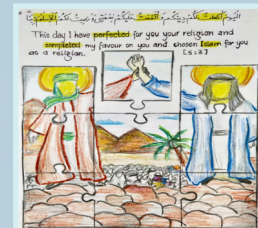
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Marzia Fatima – IV A - Consolation



5

Shazan Murtuza – IV A - Consolation



6

S. Imaan Batool Rizvi – V B - Consolation



The winners received cash prizes and certificates.

HUSSAIN DAY

To commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Hussain and his 72 companions in Karbala, the students of Unity College organised an online programme on Hussain Day on 26th August (6th Moharram) through a Zoom meeting. It was organised in order to bring all communities on one platform to promote the principles of humanity, social justice and universal brotherhood. People from different religions and sects participated in it.

The program began with Tilawat by Mohammad Sadiq Shameem, former student of Unity College. Next was the 'Soz', a mournful tribute to the martyrs of Karbala presented by Wali Husain of Class XII B. Syed Ali Jibran Rizvi of XII B anchored the program and elaborated the purpose of the War in Karbala, i.e., to condemn injustice and evil at the cost of their lives.

At the end of the program, the audience also shared their views on the tragedy of Karbala. The event on the theme of the eternal nature of Imam Hussain's quiet revolution brought home the universal appeal for truth and justice.

UNITY @ TIMES NIE PRINCIPALS' WEBINAR

On 20th August, 2020, Times NIE Lucknow in association with Learntus Technologies Private Limited hosted a Principals' Webinar on the burning issue 'Virtually Sustaining Students' Engagement'. Educationist and MLA Mr. Neeraj Bora, Career Counsellor and Mentor at Learntus Technologies Private Limited Mr. Dinesh Pathak, IT Executive and former VP at SAP Mr. Sudhanshu Srivastav, Director of Strategy at CMS Mr. Roshan Gandhi and Visiting Faculty at AMU and AIMA Mr. Srinivasan Raghvan were the eminent panelists.

The discussion centered around the adaptation to the virtual way of teaching & learning and engaging students - the ill effects of lengthy online sessions and preventive measures, teaching curriculum with a human touch, the paradigm of content collaboration and the tools required, the inclusion of students' perspective, and lastly the story telling method incorporated with images, videos and diagrams.

The session was attended by Principal Mr. Francis Castelino, Headmistress Ms. Kainaat Mansoor and NIE Teacher Coordinator Ms. Mahlaqua Siddiqui. During the concluding interactive session,

responding to Ms. Kainaat's query regarding the short attention span of young students, Mr. Gandhi said that parents need to be more encouraging and not complaining. Besides live classes, private study should be introduced and students should be made accountable for the work assigned. Mr. Srinivasan stressed on different kinds of incentives like a chocolate or a minute of voice time, etc.

The Webinar culminated on the note that educational administrators need to be catalysts and agents of change in the post COVID -19 era.



DIRT FREE MY VILLAGE

My small village is located in Krishna district of Uttar Pradesh. Though in a remote area, my village has fully adhered to the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' of the Government of India. Today we can proudly say that my village is a dirt free village. We, villagers, have worked hard to make our land green, clean and hygienic.

Earlier, only the Badaghar had a toilet, and the family of the zamindar would use it, no one else was allowed. Though people found it difficult and unsafe to go outside in the field, still they were reluctant to build any toilet attached to their houses.

Since Swachh Bharat Abhiyan reached our village, people were made aware how necessary it was to eliminate open defecation and build toilets whether public or personal. They were also given lessons in solid waste management. Now toilets have been built in each and every house of our village. For this facility, one and all are greatly obliged to the Indian government.

Now the villagers are well-informed that trees are very essential for the survival on Earth. These trees act as filters of carbon dioxide and thus purify air. Hence, people here are tending to maintain greenery.

They plant more and more trees for the ecological balance and to keep the environment free from smoke and dirt. Besides, they not only take care of the surrounding trees but also prevent its felling by the encroachers, especially from the cities. I love to see the lush green sights and breathe in fresh air.

The use of dustbins has given a new clean face to the village. At the distance of every 50 meters, we have kept a dustbin. All the people throw their garbage into the dustbins only. When all the waste is properly dumped, there will be less chances of spreading diseases caused by mosquitoes, houseflies and rats. Although there is no municipality water supply in our village, we use hand pumps. We don't use wells, we have covered all the wells so that mosquitoes do not flourish. The air in our village is clean because we avoid the use of Petrol and Diesel vehicles. People cover short distances on foot or by bicycles, etc. Generally, the health of the people of our village is good. There is no problem of pollution at all in the village.

Indeed, my dirt free village has become a model to be followed all over India. The tremendous efforts made by the Government of India, NGOs, Panchayat and the villagers themselves have resulted in making the life of villagers healthy, disease free and dirt free.

Sania Zehra
XI-B

ONLINE CLASSES, THE SAVIOUR

As COVID-19 shrouded the whole world, everything came to a standstill. Schools were shut down for an unprecedented period. The long lockdown shattered all our hope. There seemed no way to school. We were sure that our educational programme would be the worst hit.

All of a sudden, we saw a silver lining in the dark cloud of the pandemic hovering over our lives. The online classes came as a rescuer. Indeed, it is via different digital platforms that we are able to continue our studies.

I marked that many schools are providing only the online content to the students, but we are fortunate enough to have live online classes. We can interact with our teachers, ask our queries and clear our doubts, though virtually. And now as we know we are also having online tests through which we can check our progress and know what we have grasped from

these classes.

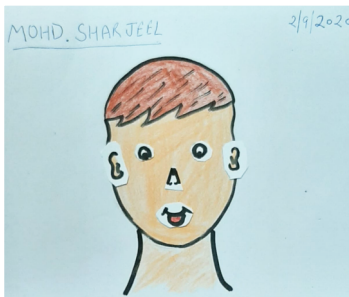
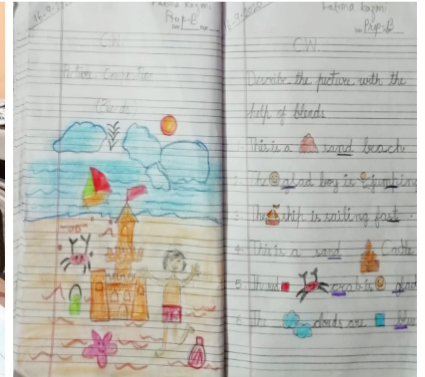
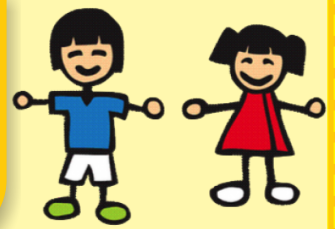
Just like two sides of the same coin, besides the positive repercussions, there are several detrimental aspects of this transitional phase too. Due to poor network, classes disconnect several times. Most of the times, the teacher's voice becomes inaudible while sometimes our own voice echoes.

I tried several networks but all in vain since the same problem persists. Unfortunately, when the teacher is teaching something very important, the network is bound to go. All these add up to my stress and I get irritated. Due to these issues, online classes seem to be a burden on some days. Nevertheless, we should embrace them with an open heart because they are proving to be our saviour in this difficult time. It is wisely said by Oscar Wilde: "When it rains look at the rainbow, when it's dark look for the stars."

Nashra Zehra
X-A



Pre-Primary — Activities —



II Shift

MONTESSORI ACTIVITIES IN II SHIFT

Covid-19 could not bog down the spirit of the educators in imparting quality lessons to the students. Keeping up with the trends of the recent paradigm shift in ways of learning, Unity College II Shift also started online classes for its students and adapted to the virtual celebrations to mark the events of the academic calendar.

Yellow Day Celebration

Yellow Day was celebrated with a virtual twist on 25th July, 2020 by the Montessori Wing, with the motive to make the children aware of Yellow colour and its significance. Focusing on the theme, the teachers planned Art and



Craft activities. The kids took keen interest and participated in drawing and colouring, origami and paper craft-all in yellow. They relished yellow fruits like mango & papaya, etc. The children also shared their photos attired in yellow outfits. In fact, the day was a fun-filled lesson in all hues of Yellow spectrum.

Eid-E-Ghadeer

Eid-E-Ghadeer was celebrated on 8th August, 2020 virtually among the Montessori students and teachers. On the day, special prayers were offered. The teachers told them about the significance of the occasion and the pivotal event at Ghadeer Khumm when the Holy Prophet (P. B. U. H.) was said to have appointed Imam Ali ibn Abi Talib (A.S.) as his successor.

Independence Day

Since digital platforms are the only medium during the present crisis to celebrate the events and festivals, Montessori teachers ensured that the students witnessed the flag hoisting, though online. They posted the videos filming the proud ceremony of flag- hoisting and patriotic songs on the eve of Independence Day. In this way, the toddlers too joined the D'day celebration with zeal and gusto. It ignited in them the love for their nation and of course, to be noble citizens.

Raksha Bandhan

Rasha Bandhan is one of the most endearing way to celebrate the bond between brothers and sisters. In the Montessori section, a 'Rakhi' making competition was



organized on 3rd August, 2020. Students came up with colourful artistic ideas, made beautiful Rakhis and shared their joyful creations on Whatsapp groups. They lovingly tied it on their brother's wrists as is our resplendent tradition. The aim of the said contest was not only to hone their aesthetic sense but also to acquaint them with the bond of siblings' love in Indian culture.



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