

Illustration by Ziya Vasi of Std. 2

JOURNEY



THE J. B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

5, Maharshi Dadhichi Marg, Fort, Mumbai 400001

Dec 2020



Illustration by Sarah Javeri

A Message from our Principal

If there was a single word to describe 2020, it would be disruption. If there's one defining feature of the coronavirus pandemic, it's uncertainty.

When one thinks of the fight against COVID-19, one is reminded of the 1980's popular song by Billy Ocean, "When the going gets tough, the tough get going", and as the lyrics suggest, the J B Petit school community certainly 'got going' to meet the extraordinary challenges spewed forth by this unprecedented crisis.

The coronavirus has been the world's collective experience; and given the population of our

country, it is no surprise that we were badly hit. The nation-wide lockdown caused by the pandemic disrupted education as never before, as remote instruction and working from home became the new norm. For schools, this posed tough challenges- to provide continuity of education and to effectively manage the evolving dynamic of the complex student-teacher-parent relationship, from a distance. Traditional, conventional approaches that were used to instruct and motivate students had to be instantly supplemented and complemented by newer, digital options. Even as the crisis intensified our interaction with technology, the educational landscape was dramatically, perhaps irrevocably altered.

Fortunately, and largely due to the collective will, commitment and effort of the school's dedicated faculty, and the professional development training afforded to them just before the nation-wide lockdown was announced, JB transitioned very successfully from the 'classroom to the cloud'. The experience has undeniably been an eye-opener for all, and has also increased teacher confidence and mastery around technology and e-platforms. The crisis forced teachers to adapt, improvise, curate and modify content, to find creative and innovative ways to teach, engage and support students. It is a matter of deep pride that our JB staff rose admirably to the challenge, drawing on a sense of passion and purpose to fulfil their mission as educators in the true sense of the word.

The school's virtual academic year began on 16th March, 2020 as both the Primary and Secondary sections of the school transitioned to synchronous and asynchronous cyber platforms. We are currently in our 9th month of e-school, having completed a very successful 1st term, and with the final term of our 2020-21 academic year well underway. Our students, teachers and parents not only adapted to academics online, but also redesigned and hosted various special school events and activities such as the ICSE Prize Distribution, the JB Model United Nations, the Inter-House Cultural Festival,

Teacher's Day and the Fun Fair, to fit into the virtual format. Despite sitting in our individual homes on our respective screens and interacting through our cameras and Zoom emoticons, the initiative and effort put in by our students, teachers and parents for each of these events was amply evident, the warmth, spirit and energy of the connections and engagement palpable, despite the geographical distance.

As we emerge on the other side of this crisis, although there may well be gaps in students' content knowledge and skills, we will be satisfied knowing that our children have adopted a 'growth mindset' and are more resilient to the challenges of adversity; that they understand that life can sometimes be uncertain and unpredictable, but possess the skills, grit and resolve to navigate and cope when things don't turn out quite as expected.

In the words of John Ruskin, "The highest reward for a person's toil is not what they get for it, but what they become by it." We at JB, too, have worked relentlessly- be it students, teachers or parents- not to attain awards and accolades for ourselves, but for the betterment of our school community and society as a whole, ably and admirably fulfilling our mission of striving, 'Ever Forward'.

- B. P. Kutar





Illustration by Arpita Sadh

THE A-Z OF E-SCHOOL

In January, 2020,
a virus entered town,
Gave everyone a cough and cold
and was shaped like a crown.

Ever since then, nothing was fine,
School and classes, all went online!

School timings changed
from eight to one,
Compared to physical school,
E-school was just NOT fun.

WIFI, Dongle, Data, Hotspot, Zoom,
Internet, Audio, Screen Share...
In time, committed to memory were all these
names.
Yet, school wasn't as fun at all,
No chit-chatting, no playing games!

Audio On, Video Off. Audio Off, Video On.
There was so much confusion everywhere.
For unexpected Internet issues,
None of us had time to prepare.

But hats-off to all our teachers,
For the hardest they have worked.
They got such little time to shift online,
While outside, Corona lurked.

They managed all the household chores,
While online, they adapted and taught.
Gave us assignments from time to time,
A new life to e-school, their determination has brought.

Let us hope that we return to physical school soon-
As I miss every single teacher and friend,
Let us promise to stay safe, work harder,
Till the time this doesn't end.

THEA GANDHI, STD. VII

2020

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Q U A R A N T I N E



WINDS OF CHANGE

A sudden change in our days,
A wave of difference comes and sways.

A pandemic knocking at the door,
Leaves us with not much hope anymore.

At least then, we had the comfort of our school,
But, one day we lost it to a new rule.

The lockdown started, and life at school ended,
Our hearts were left to be mended.

Then one day we received a mail,
Reading it, made my skin go pale.

At first, I thought it was a prank,
But then, I really did understand.

A deadly virus was making its rounds,
A vaccine or treatment hadn't been found.

Online school started with a bang,
Meeting in crowds was forbidden and banned.

At first, it was a peculiar sight
Nothing really did feel that right.

The joy of learning wasn't the same,
The noisiness of students was now so tame.

With all the teachers and Patil at their own homes,
I really don't feel like learning from a phone.

Yes, I don't enjoy learning from a phone,
I'm sure you agree! As I am not alone.

During classes the teachers go soft,
And sometimes I do get 'kicked' off.

When the teacher on Zoom is busy teaching,
Many a times I think of going beaching.

Fear grips and I am a bit scared,
Hoping that my battery doesn't go dead.

During a test, we sit with our earphones,
And promise to solve the assignment on our own.

But, at the end of the day,
I do feel, online learning is okay.

We have to accept this new way of learning,
And COVID-19; we will be victorious, this I'm reaffirming.

The new motto of JB now reads:
"Out with the old and in with the new;
Winds of change, we welcome you!"

RAAYNAA TRIPATHI, STD. VI





WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY

By March '20 our country had fallen prey
To a deadly virus, grown more virulent each day

Shutting down schools was what the Government
thought prudent
The prime concern was the safety of each student

The situation only worsened as more time passed
It soon became clear that Covid-19 would not
leave fast

Where there's a will, there's always a way
At JB Petit, with confidence and spirit we say

A pandemic didn't suggest that one couldn't learn
Instead, we accepted the challenge and played
our turn

Our Principal ensured that knowledge was shared
and gained
And in order to do so, the faculty soon was trained

Virtual platform Zoom was swiftly introduced
Thousands of opportunities for learning it
produced

Teachers and students could engage and interact
online
Build connections, communicate, save a lot of
time

Cancelling events and co-curriculars, we didn't
need to do

These were cherished traditions at JB, beloved by
us pupils too

Proudly we hosted our much awaited MUN,
'Virtually' turned out to be loads of fun

After that successful event, our Open Days took
place
Hailed as the best, most effective experience to
date

In October, our annual Cultural Fest we celebrated
A fantastic event- we were all so elated!

With their understanding nature, and undying
sense of giving
Our JB teachers helped us adapt to a whole new
way of living.

MAHIEKA GIDWANI, STD. VIII

LOCKDOWN 2020

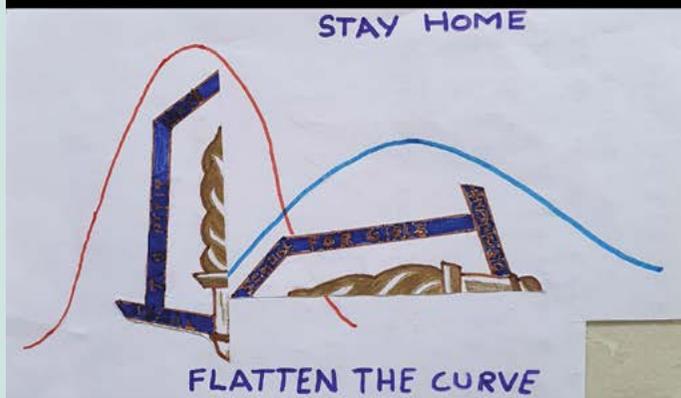
I sanitize to fight germs
Wear a mask and gloves
I clean and wash
Follow a 20 second hand-wash
I exercise so I'll grow
Google classroom helps me know
I attend online birthday parties
Scavenger hunts, Housie and house parties
I carry a tissue in case I sneeze
When the doorbell rings, I shout- 'Social
distancing!'
I travel the world on my laptop
The board games are right on top
I eat to find Mr. Immunity
And Zoom chat with my school community
Lockdown is not what I asked for
But it has given us time to pause
I miss my school, but found a hobby too
Sometimes I wonder...is Lockdown
A curse or a boon?

RIANA CHOKSHI, STD. IV

The J.B. Petit School Logo: Social Distancing Edition

Collaboration, although distant, works wonders. As the world went into lockdown with the onset of the coronavirus, a slew of famous companies like McDonalds, Starbucks and Audi creatively reworked their logos to spread the message of social distancing. Inspired by this, **students of Stds. III and IV worked their magic on our own school logo to create a “Social Distancing Edition”**. Despite being apart, our girls managed to brainstorm, share ideas and inspire each other to come up with some stellar work, proving that these bite-sized artists are up to the challenge of communicating a big idea in a simple and effective way.

Mahira Dhamodiwala, 4A



Freyana Driver, 3A



Tanya Shah, 3B



Akshita Bharadia, 4B



Namya Bagri, 4B



Aliza Patel, 4A



Covid-19 Awareness Posters

In response to the HRD Ministry's initiative to spread awareness about health and safety protocols to check the spread of the coronavirus, the **students of Std. IV designed creative posters** to share and disseminate this information. They applied their own signature style to these messages - starting by writing innovative slogans, and then supporting these with fun drawings and bright colours- resulting in a series of colourful posters, both eye catching and informative.

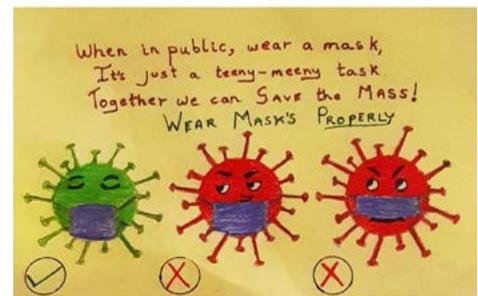
THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | DIA TOLANI, 4B



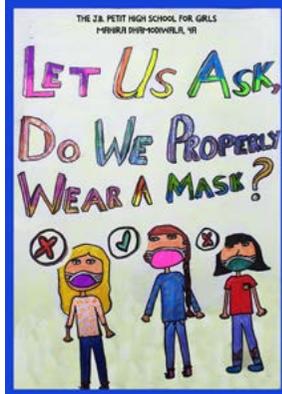
THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | RAHANA OBEROI, 4B



THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL | RANIYA DOSHI, 4A



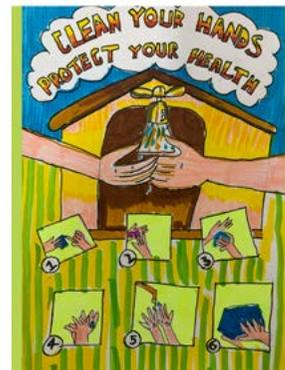
THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | RANIYA TIWARI, 4A



THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | MEHRA GOENKA, 4A



THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | TIARA JAIN, 4A



THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | SNIHI SISOORIA, 4A



THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | NAMYA BAGRI, 4B



THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | SACHI VORA, 4B



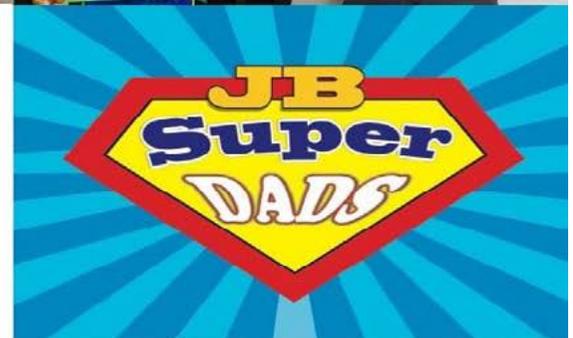
THE J.B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS | TIA SHROFF, 4A



“ Ever Forward... with good cheer!



ALWAYS TOGETHER....



Our **JB SUPERDADS sports team** gamely displayed their never-say-die spirit and good cheer, with their own special Zoom message for the school community.

Happiness does not come from doing easy work but from the afterglow of satisfaction that comes after the achievement of a difficult task that demanded our best.

JB ranked India's No.2 school, Maharashtra's No.1 & Mumbai's No.1 Girls Day School in the Education World India School Rankings 2020-21

The results of the **India Schools Merit Awards 2020** were conveyed to the school on November 9, 2020 and have been widely covered by print and television media. Academic Reputation, Individual Attention, Infrastructure Provision, Innovative Teaching, Safety & Hygiene, Sports Education, Value for Money, Holistic Development, Leadership Management and Quality of Co-curricular Activities were the parameters used in rating schools all over India.

Iconic Leadership Award: Innovative Schools' Union

The Innovative Schools' Union, led by Dr. Indu Shahani hosted the 'Iconic Leadership Awards' in the virtual presence of Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra, Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari on September 12, 2020. **Principal Ms. Benaifer P. Kutar was felicitated and bestowed the 'Iconic Leadership Award' at this virtual event** with a large audience comprising students, teachers and parents of leading Mumbai schools joining in online.



Covid-19 Inspired Art Competition

Our talented JB student, **Sarah Jhaveri of Std. V placed first in the Art Competition** organized by the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangralaya Children's Museum, Mumbai. Her prize-winning art entry brilliantly encompassed the assigned theme- Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on the world.

Student of the Year: NIE initiative

Times NIE (an initiative of the Times Group) awarded 'Student of The Year 2020-21' to our top 5 students (presently in Std. X), based on their exemplary scholastic performance in Std. IX on September 3, 2020. **These outstanding students- Krishna Mankarmi, Thea Kapadia, Sarrah Zojwala, Piya Chandalia, Diya Agarwal were awarded an award and e-certificates for their respective achievements, and also received the prestigious Vidyalankar Scholarship.**

Alefiya Dhansura wins Silver: National School Games

Alefiya Dhansura, a student of Std. VIII, represented the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi at the 65th National School Games 2019 - 2020. She bagged a silver medal in Swimming in the Under - 14 Girls category. For her persistence and hard work, the Council awarded her a sum of Rs. 8000/-. Truly, sacrifice and resilience pay huge dividends!

“
No matter what people tell you,
words and ideas can change the world.”

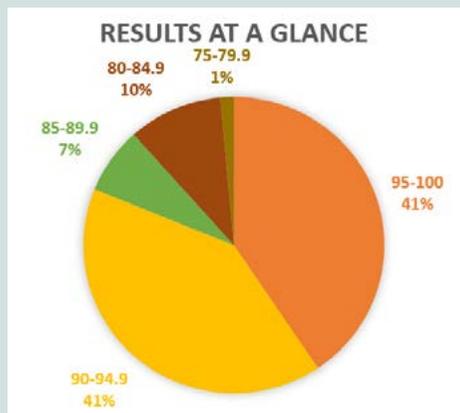
ICSE 2020 EXAM RESULTS

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our students this year were unable to appear for their ICSE examination in 4 papers – Geography, Hindi, Biology and Yoga/Computer Studies/Cookery.

Despite this setback, **all our 69 girls fared superbly and showed impressive results yet again this year.**

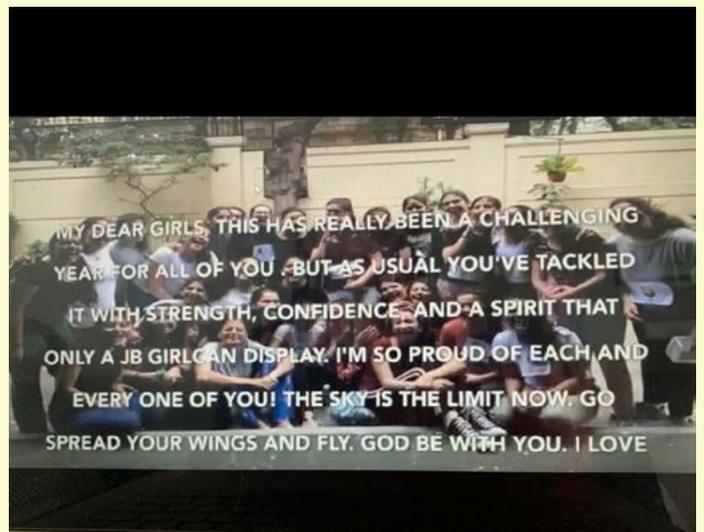
Our superb school results are praise worthy and represent a real team effort. Our outstanding JB teaching faculty are to be commended for their exemplary effort & commitment to the school and our students.

Name	%	Rank
Janina Shivdasani	98.67	1st
Mahek Merchant	98.33	2nd
Ria Parikh	98.33	2nd
Aiman Chamdawala	98.17	3rd



ICSE-Batch of 2019-20: Prize Distribution Ceremony

The event was held virtually, on Zoom, on July 31, 2020. Parents and students of the outgoing batch of 2019-20 joined us enthusiastically in cyberspace as we **felicitated our outstanding student prize winners**. Principal BP Kutar delivered an inspiring, motivational speech to mark the occasion.

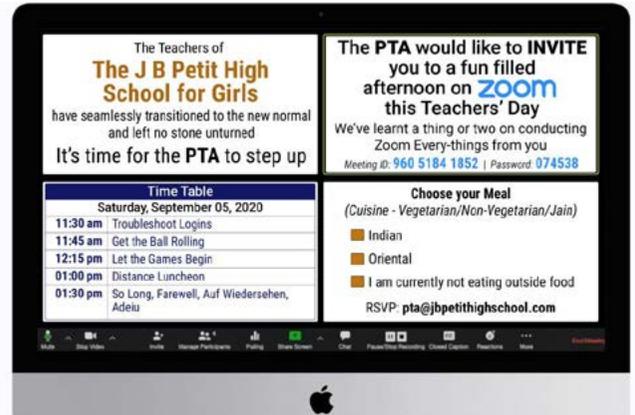


Independence Day Celebrations

Principal BP Kutar hoisted the National Flag in school on behalf of the JBP school community on Independence Day, August 15, 2020. The national anthem was sung by all present with deep pride and fervour.



preferences in mind); to putting together a morning of entertainment organized by Silly Point Productions, to ending with our iconic school anthem, ‘J.B Meri Hain’, it was an afternoon of laughter, games, music and a reminder that **no matter the social and physical distance, the social-emotional bonds and connections of our school community just grow stronger.**



Sari Day - Strike a Pose!

A sari never tells you to fit in, it makes you stand out. **To recapitulate the English Literature lesson, ‘Granny’s Sari’,** the students of Std. II celebrated Sari Day. All the students draped saris (some actually wore their Granny’s sari to stay true to the theme) and gracefully modelled for the class.

Virtual Teachers Day Celebrations

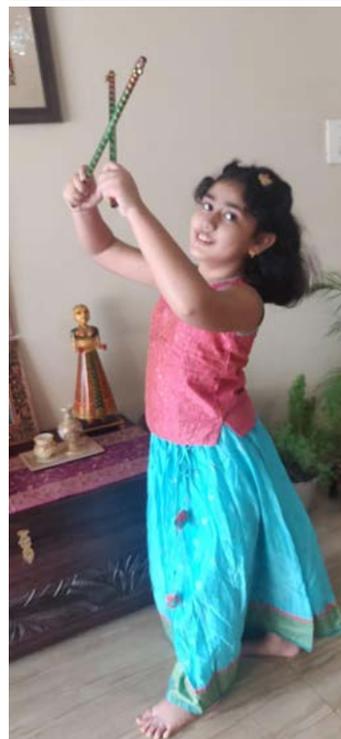
“When you do things from your soul, you feel a river moving in you, a joy.” -- Rumi

Teacher’s Day was celebrated on September 5, 2020, albeit with a difference! The parents at JB make up one of the strong pillars that supports our school community. This year’s Teachers’ Day celebration was no different, as the parents navigated the challenges of organizing an event online and provided an enjoyable afternoon that the faculty will always cherish. Right from organizing delicious food to be delivered all across the city (keeping everyone’s taste



Dussehra Festival

As good triumphed over evil, the colourful festival of Navratri was celebrated virtually with zest and fun. The children dressed up in bright and colourful ghaghra cholis and other traditional attire and danced to the tune of Garba music in their homes. The pleasure of dressing up and dancing brought smiles to the faces of our children. A grandparent narrated a story on Dussehra festival. Ms. Ila Dalal and Mrs. Bindiya Dharia taught simple Garba steps and had the children twirling to their tunes.



Diwali Celebrations

Diwali is a time when the gleam of diyas vanquishes darkness. The students of Stds. II and IV, celebrated the festival by displaying their gratitude for all the wonderful people who have helped make life safe and comfortable during the past few months of lockdown. Each girl wrote a message wishing all the frontline helpers and their families a **VERY HAPPY DIWALI**. A brilliant collage was created with the colourful lanterns and artistic "torans". Our young chefs also prepared scrumptious Oreo cookie-laddoos to sweeten the tooth during the festive season.



JB Funfair

When one thinks of the JB annual planner, one cannot help but think of the JB Funfair; and many of us thought that this year, one of our most anticipated events would not take place. However, we were proved wrong yet again, this time by our very own PTA. If our children are exceptional, it is because their parents are exceptional! Our parent body decided to have a **virtual funfair- bigger, brighter and more awesome than ever before.**

The parents of the Funfair Committee worked zealously behind the scenes to bring to the children virtual activities from around the world in 'Winter Wonderland' held on 19th and 20th of December. From edutainment to scavenger hunts, there was something for every age group... Harry

Potter Trail, Frozen and detective hunts; craft workshops with Fevcreate, Origami, doodling and coffee painting sessions, magic workshops; story-telling with Lubaina Bandukwala (JB parent and curator of art and literary festivals); making and playing musical instruments, Christmas ornaments and dance fitness; S.T.E.A.M and stand-up comedy workshops; kickboxing, Mindfulness and Wellness, Bakeology; Shake a Leg with legendary choreographer Shiamak Davar... phew, the list was endless! Children enrolled in these and many more in large numbers and not only had a thrilling time but also got the opportunity to learn from the very best around the globe.



WINTER WONDERLAND
A J. B. Petit PTA Initiative
19th and 20th December 2020

The J. B. Petit PTA presents
WINTER WONDERLAND
19th - 20th DECEMBER, 2020

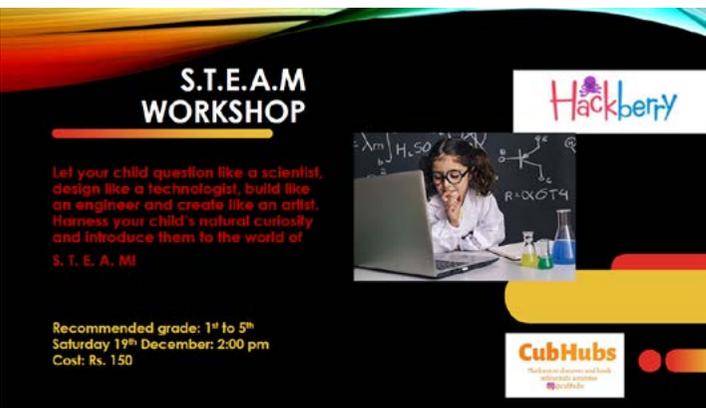


CLUE HUNT
INDIA'S FIRST LIVE ESCAPE GAME

CLUE HUNT
INDIA'S FIRST LIVE ESCAPE GAME

CLUE HUNT is a 'ROOM ESCAPE' game, a clue finder, A mini-theatre and a live action flick at the same time, where you yourself control the course of events. It is a crime scene full of clues. The goal is simple yet challenging get out in 60 minutes! Rely on your brains and intuition. Come and play!

Recommended grade: 3rd to 10th
Date: Friday 18th December 2020
Time: 7:00 pm
Cost: Rs. 350

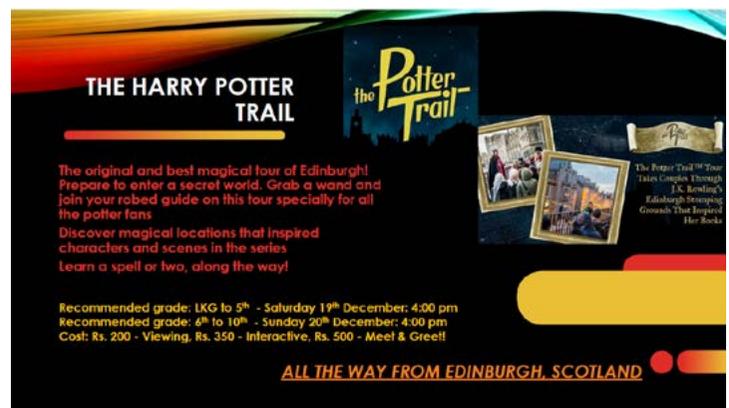


S.T.E.A.M WORKSHOP

Let your child question like a scientist, design like a technologist, build like an engineer and create like an artist. Harness your child's natural curiosity and introduce them to the world of S. T. E. A. M!

Recommended grade: 1st to 5th
Saturday 19th December: 2:00 pm
Cost: Rs. 150

Hackberry
CubHubs



THE HARRY POTTER TRAIL

The original and best magical tour of Edinburgh! Prepare to enter a secret world. Grab a wand and join your robed guide on this tour specially for all the potter fans. Discover magical locations that inspired characters and scenes in the series. Learn a spell or two, along the way!

Recommended grade: LKG to 5th - Saturday 19th December: 4:00 pm
Recommended grade: 6th to 10th - Sunday 20th December: 4:00 pm
Cost: Rs. 200 - Viewing, Rs. 350 - Interactive, Rs. 500 - Meel & Greet!

ALL THE WAY FROM EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND



FROZEN SCAVENGER HUNT

You better know what lies where at home ☺ this scavenger hunt will send you searching for some fun stuff around the house! Join the search party!

Recommended grade: LKG to 2nd
Sunday 20th December - 3:00 pm
Cost: Rs. 150

WHISPERER OF WORDS
CubHubs



JUST AN ILLUSION BY FRED

Why not gift laughter this holiday season with a fun virtual comedy magic show? Children could really use some fun these days

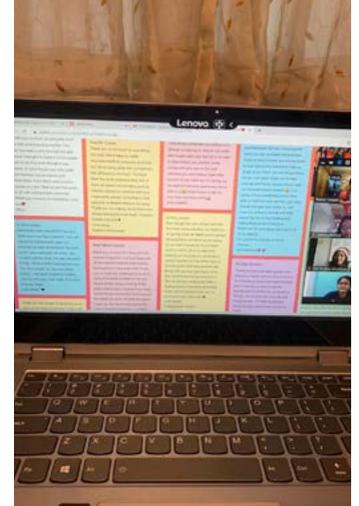
Recommended grade: LKG to 7th
Saturday 19th December: 5:30 pm
Cost: Rs. 200 - Viewing, Rs. 350 - Interactive, Rs. 500 - Meel & Greet!

Magic Fred
NEW ENGLAND'S FAVORITE CHILDREN'S MAGICIAN!
AMERICA'S LEADING MAGICIAN

WINTER WONDERLAND

Christmas Celebrations

The magic of Christmas never ends and its greatest gifts are family and friends. **Every class in JB had its own virtual Xmas celebration by organising online parties which included snacks, carol singing, Bingo games, watched movies, etc.** The girls dressed up according to the dress code in keeping with the Christmas spirit and exchanged Christmas gifts. The PTA, with the teachers of Std. V organised a Bingo party with a twist, a 'Songbola' with a live DJ. They ate snacks, sang and danced the morning away, swaying to the beat of foot-tapping numbers and what's more, won prizes galore! Std. IX, with true Christmas spirit, used their Secret Santa budget to give something back to our JB canteen helpers, Kanhaiyalal and Raman.



VIRTUAL CELEBRATIONS

Virtual Cultural Festival 2020: Metamorphosis

'Any transition serious enough to alter your definition of self will require not just small adjustments in your way of living and thinking, but a full-on metamorphosis.' - Martha Beck.

Given the kind of year we've had and the changes the school community has had to face, **the theme of metamorphosis seemed apt for the secondary school Cultural Festival- 2020.** Although the event this year was conducted on a virtual platform, it did nothing to take away the energy, enthusiasm and competitive spirit of the participants and the encouragement from all those who watched and cheered for the various events. Ranging across a plethora of categories of **Performing Arts, Literary Arts, Technical Drawing, Speech and Drama and many more,** all the events were adapted to the online space thanks to the meticulous planning, organization and unwavering spirit of the Head Girl, President, Vice President and the Organizing Committee.

The events showcased a variety of the students' talents and skills and tested the participants physical and mental prowess, as well as their ability to think on their feet. Apart from the usual singing, dancing, Just A Minute (Hindi and English), writing and drama events, the student organisers also managed to adapt and design scavenger hunts, art, photography, slam poetry and several others to suit the format of the "new normal." Glued to their screens, the participants spent the day competing and the finale performances of singing and dancing had the whole school watching, with the students cheering for their respective Houses and the teachers appreciating the immense effort put in by the students. Yet again we were reminded that when given a chance to step out of its cocoon, the butterfly takes flight; and **when our girls are given the opportunity to step out of their comfort zone, albeit virtually, they aspire to soar!**



Student Council 2020 - 2021

The **first ever virtual Student Government Elections** were held on December 3, 2020. Meticulously planned, the event was a great opportunity for the competing students to craft an online election campaign, share and express their views, highlight latent talents and respond to some tough questions raised by other students on their candidature.

Spread over a week of campaigning to the final Election Day, **online voting was carried out across grades VII to X and the entire teaching faculty.** We heartily congratulate our new student office bearers. Ever Forward... in true JB spirit!



The New Student Council 2020-21



The Outgoing Student Council 2019-2020

Virtual JB Model United Nations

“In all debates, let truth be thy aim, not victory, or an unjust interest.” - William Penn

Amidst the challenges of the year 2020, our JBP Secretariat managed to pull off yet another successful first ever online JB MUN 2020, from 4th - 6th September. **Our very talented and motivated Student Secretariat organized and chaired five committees over the three days of the event.** Our students, with great leadership, character and endurance engaged in and collaborated in skillful negotiations and debates, as they passed resolutions with judiciousness and diplomacy.



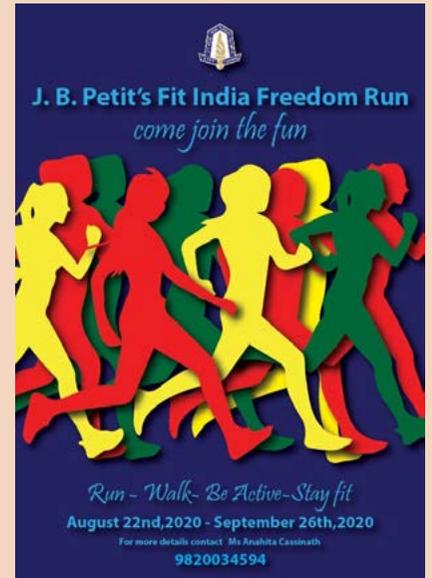
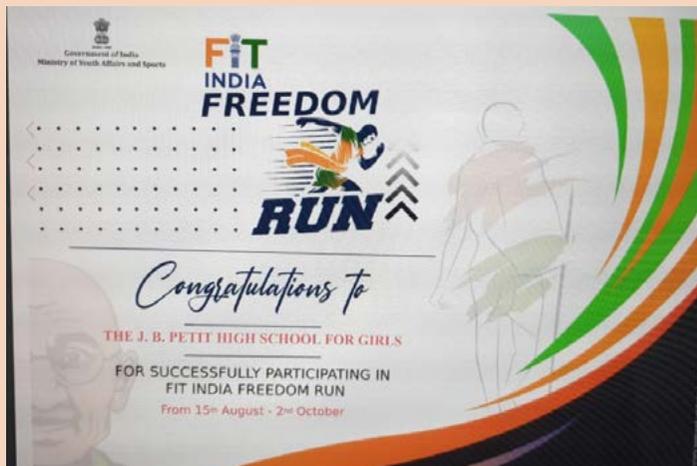
The JB MUN Secretariat

Fit India Freedom Run

The school was awarded a Merit Certificate for the successful participation of its student body in the 'Fit India Freedom Run' from August 15 to October 2, 2020. This was a fitness initiative of The Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, New Delhi.

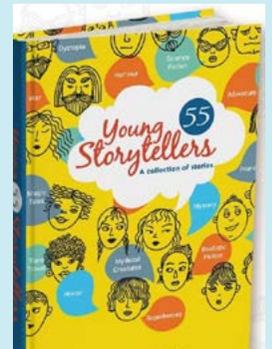
Do click on this link to view all the fun posters, drawings and slogans from the children for the theme [Hum Fit toh India Fit](#)

Do Click on this link to find the padlet for the theme [Stay Fit Don't Quit](#).



I Want to Be an Author- Story Writing Competition

The event was organised by Crosswords, and our Std. IX student, Tanya Syed's story was selected as one of the top 51 stories, and printed in a book. Her story was shortlisted by a panel of experts and made the final list out of over 23,000 participants



Outstanding Women in Sports

Std. VIII student, Taarini Suri, was featured in #ziptofitness, 6th episode. The series covers outstanding women in sports and is currently being aired on YouTube, Spotify and Instagram. In her interview, Taarini speaks movingly about the strong support her school has given her in balancing her academic demands with her passion for badminton.



Daddy-Daughter Mandala Making Activity

The best inheritance a parent can give one's child is a few minutes of time each day. **The daddies and daughters of Std. III participated in a creative mandala-making activity.** The mothers judged the final product and declared a winner amongst themselves.



Global Tipping Point Summit- Youth Forum

Our student, **Krishna Mankarmi from Std. X, represented JB at the Youth Forum of the virtual Global Tipping Point Summit, on 18th October 2020.** The mission of the Summit was designed to explore paradigm shifts in education and parenting caused due to the Covid-19 pandemic and give the youth an opportunity to voice their thoughts and concerns about academics and parenting in these unprecedented times.



100 Thousand Poets for Change

The annual poetry event, '100 Thousand Poets for Change', was organized in partnership with Kitab Khana by Mrs. Menka Shivdasani with Mrs. Rati Wadia, former Principal of Queen Mary's School. **Evocative poems written by four of our students (Mahieka Gidwani Std. VIII, Naysa Seth Std. VIII, Taisha Kariya Std. VII and Mahuli Datta Std. V) on the theme, 'Love is a Many Splendoured Thing' were selected for the virtual event, and recited online by the students, with other students performing Indian classical dances, on a live streaming event on September 20, 2020. These poems will be preserved in the archives of the Stanford University, California.** This year the students were thrilled to have been addressed by the poet co-founder of the movement, Mr. Michael Rothenberg.

Born Scientists

Each of us have the ability to invent. This was clearly demonstrated by our Einsteins of Stds. III and IV, who used household items to produce their own games based on principles of science. **They created landscapes with materials at home; light by making pin-hole cameras, kaleidoscopes, spectroscopes and shadow theatres.**



Making a Rag Doll: Lessons on Ethnicity

In the words of DeMar DeRozan, “I don’t care what shape, form, ethnicity, nothing. I treat everybody the same.” **The students of Std. IV made rag dolls with different skin tones as they explored myths surrounding the birth of different races.** This activity helped them understand that people of all colours and races are the same inside; colour is only skin deep.



Earth Day 2020- 3 R's: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

‘There is no plan B, there is no planet B.’ To create an awareness about the environment and the concept of waste management, the industrious students of Stds. II & III upcycled old T shirts

into cloth bags to be used for shopping; some children also made skipping ropes using old T-shirts.



Playdough Kindergarten Activity

The jubilant students of LKG sang, “I like to move it, move it...” and “If you’re happy and you know it...” **Through joyful sing-song activity, our LKG students replicated and sculpted beautiful objects.**



Monsoon Creatures Project

*"I've always found the rain very calming."
Venus Williams*

The students of Std. I researched different monsoon creatures and created one of clay or recycled materials. They discussed the important characteristics and features of their creations as well as the process in creating it. This self-presentation was done confidently and independently by the students themselves.



Learning 'Vilom Shabd': Puppet Play

Knowledge of languages is the doorway to wisdom. To reinforce the concept of opposites or 'vilom' in Hindi, **the students of Std. III wrote their own stories using opposites.** Some enacted their story using puppets, some used charts and others enthusiastically narrated the story.

Virtual Class Assemblies

"The one thing that you have that nobody else has is you. Your voice, your mind, your story, your vision. So, write and draw and build and play and dance and live as only you can." - Neil Gaiman

The ever-enthusiastic students of Std. V, put up online Class Assemblies, that could well have been part of our famed JB VEPs! These had music and dance acts, art work, needle work, gymnastics,

etc. showcasing the boundless talents of our girls. Principal BP Kutar, 'popped-in' on several such events held by the Secondary School students, much to the surprised delight of the students!



My Thoroughly Modern Grandma / Grandpa

A grandparent is a little bit parent, a little bit teacher, and a little bit best friend. **The students of Std. III engaged with a grandparent and then created a poem in Google Docs.** They were inspired by the poem, My Thoroughly Modern Granny by Eva Cook. The children affectionately described their grandparents as wise, brave, caring, funny, strong, independent individuals and much more. There were grandparents who read 'humongous' books, helped their grandchildren double when they were in trouble, sang and played with them, cooked them treats, advised their grandchildren to never say words that hurt, to be gracious and never be curt. Here's a snippet from one poem:

*She never got angry with anyone
With children she liked to have fun.
She was always in a peaceful mood
And taught all that was good.*

*She always said, "Don't say words that hurt,
Be gracious and never be curt,
Share with others what is your very own,
You'll have lots of friends and never be alone."*

'My Family' Activity

The lockdown and virtual learning brought the family into the classrooms; in the truest sense! The children of Std. II were assigned a project of getting all the members of the family to “dance” to their tunes, literally so! It was an incredibly engaging and spirited activity which made family members appreciate and learn so much about and from each other.

Our student, Annika sums it up best-

*I've learnt so much through this exercise
my thoughts are exactly these precise-
getting everyone to listen
and to follow instructions to the T,
is something now I realize-
is a teacher's daily cup of tea!
what now seems to be a piece of cake-
has a history of many re-runs & retake!
getting everyone to sit,
discussing every bit of it,
often there were different views,
when we disagreed, our tempers flew!
but now that it's all danced away and done,
I must admit it was a lot of fun!*



Speech and Drama: Expressions Unlimited

Mime makes the invisible, visible and the visible, invisible. **The students of Stds. III and IV used body language and facial expressions to convey emotions.** The human face and body can be extremely expressive and able to convey umpteen emotions without saying a word.

*Music is Everywhere!
“I feel it in my fingers
I feel it in my toes
Love is all around me
And so, the feeling grows.”*

During the music class, students of Std. III were encouraged to observe and listen to the sounds heard every day. Each student noted down the most prominent sound they heard. Their responses were in accordance with their differing surroundings. This activity was done to introduce a song about recognizing and appreciating the ‘music’ all around us.



School: My Second Home!

“Home is where the heart is.” As a part of understanding the concept, ‘School for All and Education’, **Annika Goplani of Std. II, decided to make a miniature model of her beloved school which she fondly calls her second home!** She decided to give a virtual campus tour via a home-video, as the lockdown has truly made her miss

school sorely! While at home, each weekday she yearns to be at JB before 8!

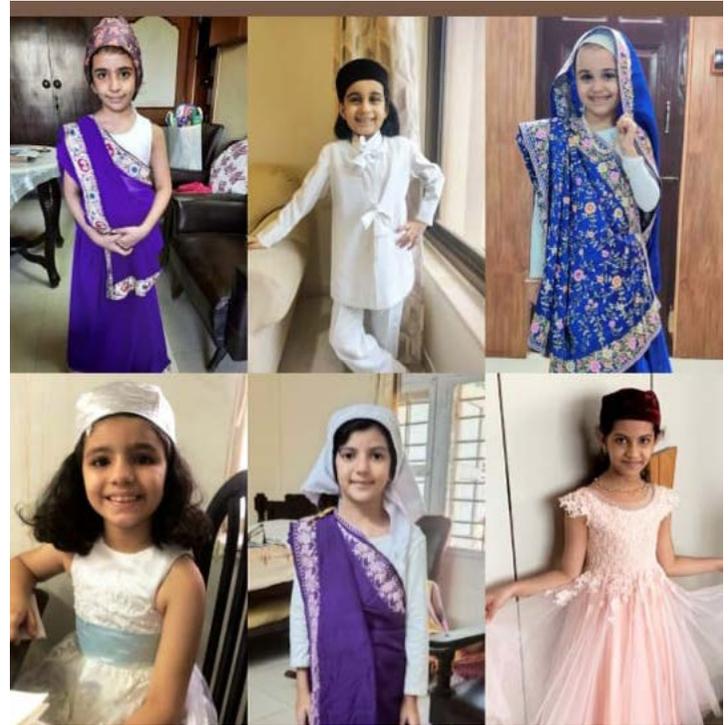
*“It’s a rule
to be at school
well before quarter to eight,
for - if you don’t
then you know you won’t
get past “Patil” at the gate!
He’ll stare you down
with a high brow frown
to say “ Miss, you are late!”
... and that one look
has many- a- shook
for years that have rolled by
SO,*

*My dear child, please do rush,
be quick and brisk with your bath & brush
and bid daddy and brother Good Bye!”*



Celebrating Community Day

Children of Std. II celebrated Community Day. Each child spoke about their respective community, highlighting the unique traditions, customs and rituals. Slide presentations by each group added to the learning.



Cooking up a Storm!

Good food never fails to bring people together. The students of Std. I, II, III and IV put on their chef’s hats and rolled out a platter of mouth-watering dishes: microwave pizzas, Mumbai specialties such as bhel, washed down with nimbu pani, sattu ki ladoo, chocolate ladoos, healthy Frankies, bread pizzas and chocolate fudge. Yummy!



A Virtual Class Assembly - Heal the World

HKG students presented a wonderful virtual class assembly, “Heal the World”. The Biblical story of Noah’s Ark and its relevant theme was superbly portrayed by the children, much to the joy and appreciation of the parents and teachers watching on their respective screens.

HKG A and B request you to come aboard as we embark on this journey....

to
“HEAL THE WORLD”



Tuesday, 22nd December 2020 at
11:30am...

Zoom ID : 9738866127

Passcode : ever4ward

Environmental Awareness Session by Bittu Sahgal

Std. II showcased their computer artwork in TuxPaint on the theme ‘Habitats’. To wrap this unit up, renowned environmentalist and founder of Sanctuary Asia Magazine, Bittu Sahgal engaged virtually with students of Std. II. It was an enlightening 1 ½ hours where he presented photos and images from Sanctuary Cub; stories woven around these pictures captivated his young audience. He made sounds of the frog and taught the children the ‘clap of the jungle’- a noiseless crisscrossing wave of the arms over the head. Pertinent, poignant messages were related: “Boundaries are a human creation; birds don’t need passports or tickets; animals don’t waste; if we mess around with nature, it sends floods and pandemics to renew the world’s balance.”



Virtual Workshop: Welfare of Stray Dogs

The students of Std. V participated in a virtual interactive workshop conducted by Ms. Sonal Alva, a volunteer with Welfare of Stray Dogs (WSD) in July, 2020. Students gained sensitivity and insights into the world of Mumbai’s strays and appreciated the commendable work done by WSD.

Parenting through the Pandemic: Mental health initiative

It all begins with parents! In an effort to support our school community through these unprecedented times, a parenting workshop was organized for the parents of the students of LKG and HKG. Our school counsellor facilitated a session on how parents could support their children as they face the uncertainties of these times. Parents also shared strategies that they had been using to support their child, thus fostering a sense of community and collaboration.

Helping your children navigate through these tough times.

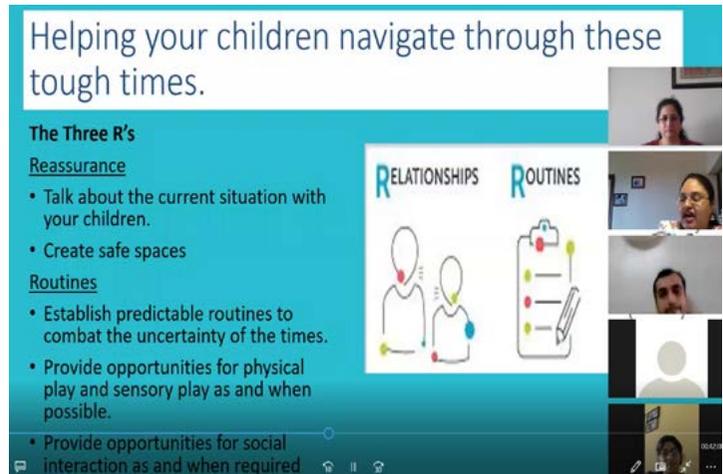
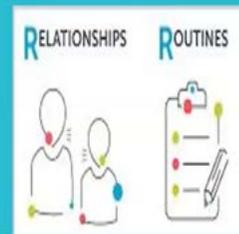
The Three R's

Reassurance

- Talk about the current situation with your children.
- Create safe spaces

Routines

- Establish predictable routines to combat the uncertainty of the times.
- Provide opportunities for physical play and sensory play as and when possible.
- Provide opportunities for social interaction as and when required



World Environment Day: Book Reading Session

An engaging book reading session was conducted by author, **Tvisha Doctor** for the students of **Stds. I to IV**. The adventures of Zane and Zoey helped them learn about the impact of waste on the environment. Students also learnt about novel ways they can reduce, reuse, and recycle waste at home.

Talk on Healthy Eating Habits by Dr Manisha Sisodia

An informative session was conducted by **Dr. Manisha Sisodia** for the students of **Std IV**. She explained the importance and functions of the digestive and excretory system, as well as threw light on the advantages of healthy eating. Dr. Manisha shared many fun facts and dispelled myths the children had about the various organs in our body. A vital session to inculcate healthy eating habits!

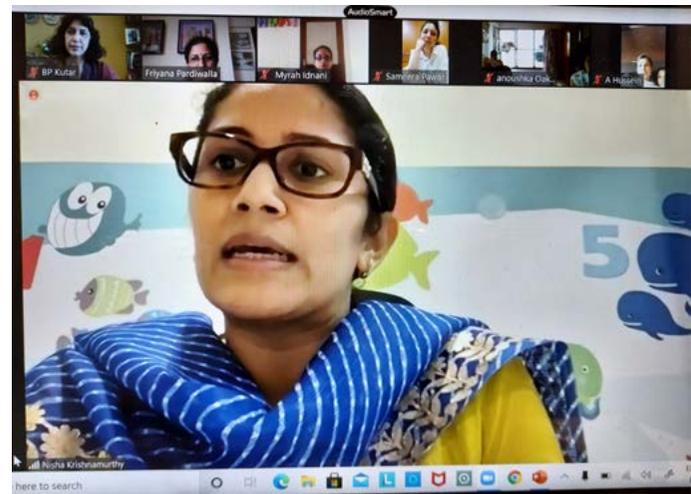
COVID-19 Awareness Campaign

As per the directive issued by the HRD Ministry, New Delhi, and reiterated by CISCE, **our school implemented all the necessary protocols required to be put in place for the 'Covid-19 Awareness Campaign'**. The aim was to sensitize students and their families and make them aware of the 3 Pillars of Protection against Covid-19 viz. Face Covering / Mask, Hygiene and Social Distancing. Posters and banners were made and displayed in school as part of an **intensive & focused Covid-19 School Campaign**. Students and teachers of the school follow the practice of reciting the safety pledge daily in their first class of the day.

COVID - 19 Seminars by Medical Professionals

Informative seminars by medical health professionals were organized virtually for our school community to highlight the specific risks

associated with the virus for children of different ages, and the necessary health, hygiene and safety protocols that must be adopted by individuals and institutions. These online sessions were conducted for all parents of Stds. LKG- Std. X by eminent pediatricians who have been working on the frontline with pediatric COVID patients over the last several months. The doctors who conducted these sessions for our school are: **Dr. Nisha Krishnamurthy, MD (Pediatrics), Consultant Pediatric Nephrologist; Dr. Aayon Sengupta, DCH, DNB (Pediatrics), Senior Consultant, Pediatric Intensive Care Services; and Dr. Ambreen Pandrewala, DNB (Pediatrics), RCPCH Consultant, Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Immunology- all medical professionals associated with the SRCC Children's Hospital, Mumbai.**



Locked, but not down!

Notwithstanding the coronavirus pandemic, virtual staff meetings, planning meetings, subject coordination meetings, ERP software meetings and PTA meetings continued to be scheduled in cyberspace all through the enforced lockdown.

Principal Ms. BP Kutar and primary supervisor Ms. R. Mishra demonstrated active leadership in a crisis, as they etched out robust, strategic plans for the school, organized training programmes for the faculty to transition to digital e-learning platforms, collaborated consistently with staff and parents, engaged actively with students and solicited timely feedback to ensure educational continuity through the unprecedented crisis.

Despite the considerable challenges, **the entire school community- staff, students and parents- displayed tremendous resilience and an unwavering JB spirit of love, hope and optimism as they demonstrated that JB could be locked... but never down!**



Benchmarking the Finnish teacher

Principal, Ms. BP Kutar attended a 5-day virtual workshop held from 10th - 14th Aug., 2020, organized by AISM, conducted by Ms. Johana Ursin Escobar and Mr. Senthil Kumaran. **Interesting insights were gleaned on the Finnish system of education, its unique pedagogy and holistic approach to the education of children.**

An Orientation to Indian Social and Emotional Learning Framework

Principal BP Kutar further attended a **3 day virtual workshop, “An Orientation to Indian Social and Emotional Learning Framework”** in December 2020, organised by The Teacher Foundation.

Lockdown Learning

All elementary school teachers (Std. 1 - 10) underwent the NISHTHA - “National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers Holistic Advancement” training - An integrated teacher training programme under the centrally sponsored education scheme that aims to **build professional pedagogical competencies amongst all teaching faculty at the elementary stage.**

This is an initiative of NCERT (National Council of Educational Research and Training), Ministry of Education, Government of India.

“There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up.”
John Holmes

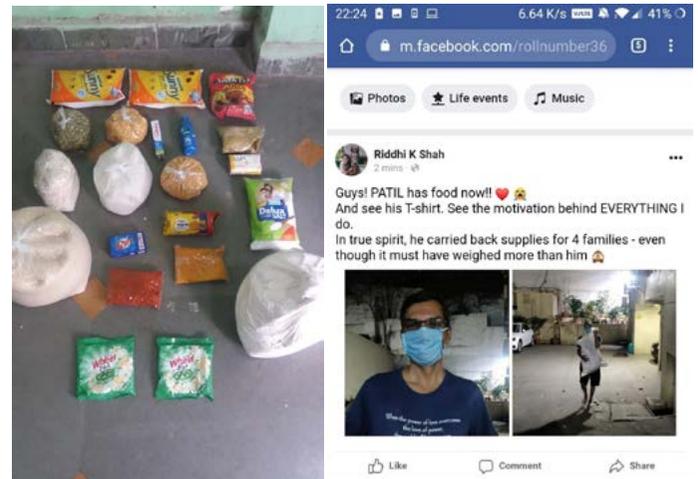
JB Crowd Funding Programme

An initiative was spearheaded by the JB Petit Student Council and Student Body under the guidance of The Alpha Urbane Project Team, a **youth leadership organization which aims to provide a platform for young students to impact society in meaningful ways.** Our students collaborated with the organization to start a crowd funding Campaign for the international NGO, ‘**Habitat for Humanity**’ to provide Family Essential Kits and Hygiene Kits for less privileged Indian families impacted by the pandemic. 105 participating students collectively raised Rs.50,31,307 over the four-week crowd-funding program. **The amount raised by the students provided 2,013+ families with essential supplies and basic hygiene items as part of the larger Covid relief effort.**



Service above Self

JB alumna Riddhi Shah (Batch of 2006), took it upon herself to collect, organize and distribute food packages and essential items to daily wage earners & slum dwellers who had been hit the hardest by the Covid-19 national lock down. The pictures below show Patil, our school watchman carrying back supplies for poor families in need. The message on his JB-MUN T-shirt poignantly proclaims: **‘When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace.’**



Collection and Distribution of Diwali Hampers

In keeping with the JB ethos of selfless giving, students of Std. VII A collected a ‘charity kitty’ by helping out at home with chores during the lockdown. They made small artefacts, cookies and also donated from their pocket money. The collective amount was used to gift our school support staff and security personnel with hampers containing basic food staples, to celebrate a joyful, festive Diwali. The distribution was

done by our girls in school on Nov. 5, 2020. The parents and girls, along with their teachers are grateful and happy that they had this opportunity to give back to society.



Buds of Hope- Charity Initiative

At JB we believe in the saying, “Don’t wait for an opportunity. Create it!” A **charity initiative pioneered by Std. X students Diya Muchhala and Parneeka Karnani** was started because of a simple feeling of gratitude for the things that we are privileged to have in these trying times, whereas the less fortunate sections of society are struggling to survive. **With a strong belief that it is our collective responsibility to do our bit for our fellow citizens, our students have decided to partner with an NGO every month that targets a different community of people that have been affected by the pandemic.** This includes rural communities in need, victims of abuse and rape, old age homes, hospices, special schools, orphanages etc.

Our students have worked with Happy Feet Home in Oct 2020, Sampoorana Shiksha in Nov 2020; and other NGOs have been approached for upcoming monthly drives.



Journey with Homeless

Through the academic year the girls engaged in raising funds by various activities such as home chores, crafts and baking in order to aid the women of Urja Trust - Journey With Homeless Young Children. Records of collections were maintained each week over the months and a generous figure came together. **Grocery packages with ample supplies of daily essentials was organized and delivered** to select locations of students living across different areas in Mumbai for collection by the Urja young children.



Virtually Together 2020

Zoom meetings
social distancing
Corona Virus
Vaccines
Wifi
The JB Family
virtual school
Online Learning
Connectivity
Digital Platform
Lockdown
Quarantine
Disruption
New Normal
Google Classroom
mask



“Distance learning will be gnarly and difficult, but we are trained in those martial arts. We are educators. We have always known how to alchemize the strange into the sublime, the listless into the lovely. For now, technology may be the medium; but, as always, LOVE is the lesson.”
- L.Merkley



5, Maharishi Dadhichi Marg, Fort, Mumbai-400 001

*Someday we will look back on this year
And it will forever remind us
To never take the little things for granted
It will remind us
To hug with all our hearts
To pause and breathe in the moment
To appreciate holding someone's hand
To live in the moments
That we are surrounded by others.*