

# JOURNEY



Illustrated by Sarrah Sakarwala, Std. X

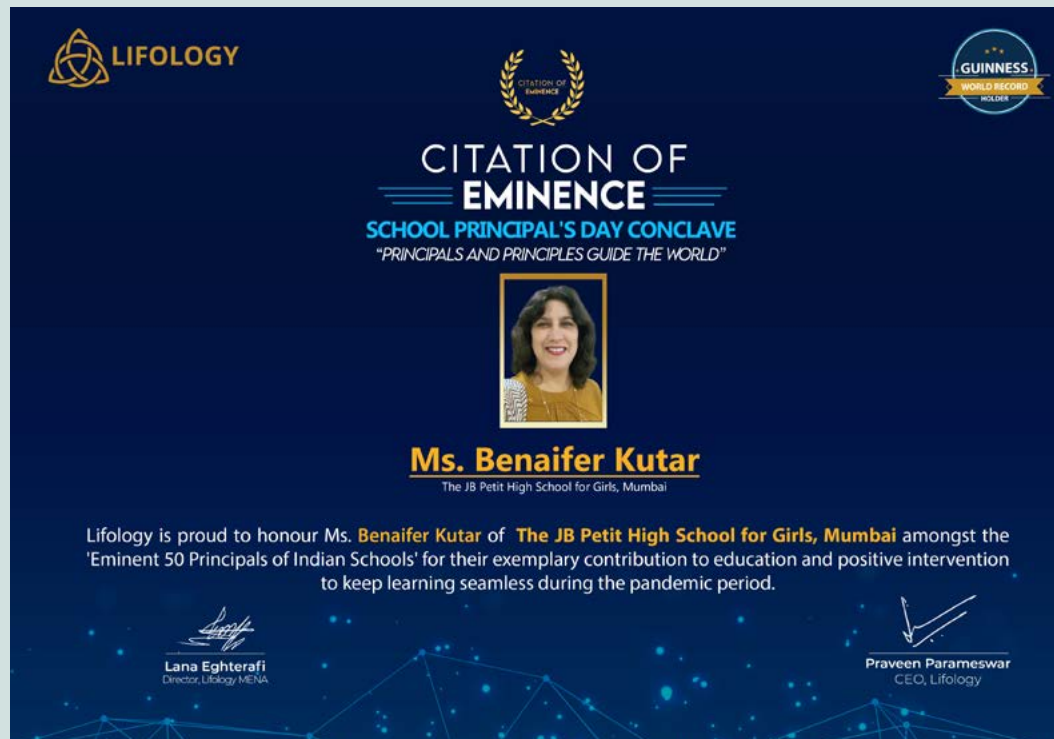


THE J. B. PETIT HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

5, Maharshi Dadhichi Marg, Fort, Mumbai 400001

July 2021

“Awards and ceremonies are all an applause of discipline.



On May 1st, **Lifology, a Guinness World Record winning Ed-tech organisation**, honored our school with a **Citation of Eminence award** for our Principal BP Kutar. 50 principals of eminent schools were selected as recipients of the award from 1000 schools across India and the Middle East. The function was graced by prominent educationists like CBSE Director Dr. Biswajith Saha, Dr. Merliyn Maze (USA - APCDA), Ambassador (Fmr) TP Sreenivasan, Dr. Mukesh

Kapila (University of Manchester), Dr. Jebamalai (Fmr Principal Advisor to United Nations Industrial Development Organisation, UNIDO), Iryna Poladko (Life Coach, Russia), among others.

**Principal BP Kutar's insightful address at the occasion is to be collated and incorporated into a Blue Book to be presented to CBSE and the Indian Ministry of Education.**



## The Student Government

Heartiest congratulations!

On January 22, 2021 The J.B. Petit High School for Girls conducted a brief but solemn online **Investiture Ceremony**, to invest the newly appointed office bearers of the School for the year 2021-22 through a live session on Zoom.

The Ceremony was attended by the Principal, Staff members, parents and Students of Std 9 and 10.

## Spelling Bee Competition

**Annika Goplani studying in Std III stood 1st** (Group 2-Western Region) in the Regional Round of the India Spelling Bee Competition. The competition required students to complete timed activities and compete against students from all over India. Annika stood her ground among all the participants and emerged with the first place after a gruelling competition. **We are extremely proud of her efforts.**





## Living our Motto

Some days I like to go back to the bright core memories in my head,  
Where we are in the hall,  
Together, singing our school anthem,  
Our hearts beating as one,  
Radiating with pride and love for our school.

Now as we sit at home,  
We have been desperately missing an integral part of us.  
Our school, those smooth walls, that wooden hollow staircase, our  
corridors and hall.

It will always be a part of us.  
Now even as we learn on Zoom,  
Never getting to maul our teachers with hugs as they walk in,  
Or say the ever singsong 'Good Morning',  
Having our screens and wifi being the only connection we could have,  
And waking up and following the same routine over and over again,  
Now no day is special anymore, Friday isn't as special anymore.

But we still have each other,  
We still have the Jb attitude coursing through our veins,  
We're still surviving,  
We're still living,  
And we're all still here because of the fighting spirit Jb instills in all of  
us,  
To be relentless,  
To have hope and strength and responsibility,  
To have courage and do what's right and to keep moving Ever Forward.

We miss that gorgeous building  
And that beautiful, free, fun and amazingly accepting atmosphere,  
And now we are adapting with our situation, accepting it, taking it in our  
stride,  
Jumping and climbing over our obstacles,  
Because that's what we do  
Because we know that in the end Jb will still be there.

After all this ,  
We can still walk through that gate,  
And be welcomed with open arms,  
Roam through the school ,

Hug our teachers,  
And truth be told, I miss our uniform so much,  
I'd wear the uniform every day if it meant going back.  
I love you Jb , you've kept me going through everything.  
Thank you for teaching me to keep going Ever Forward

-Sarrah Sakarwala - Std. X





Illustrated by Niya Jain, Std X

## Ever forward

*Ever forward with a smile,  
As wide as the mighty Nile...*

*Ever forward in hope,  
Moving in faith, tied to the divine rope...*

*Ever forward in strength,  
Loving and nurturing existence...*

*Ever forward like the brook,  
Flowing in nature's rhythm, with a peaceful look...*

*Ever forward with the wheel of time,  
Spreading love, cheer and being divine...*

*Life is so graceful, like a butterfly in a cocoon,  
Listen to your heart and take it as a boon...*

- Mahira Verma - Std IV

## THE SILVER LINING

The past year has presented the world with a unique set of challenges. During this time, I found myself grappling with uncertainty, my mind engulfed by fear and anxiety and a sense that everything around me had come to a sudden halt. Unprecedented and disturbing events were taking place around the world and social media became a suffocating presence, more often than not. Keeping up with online school in the 10th grade was strenuous, but the most devastating part for me was losing physical connections. Not being able to go out and interact with my friends made me feel confined and lonely.

It took time to realise that everything happens for a reason, and since my bustling life had come to a pause, I had time. There is always a silver lining in every negative situation, but the most important thing is to recognize that silver lining. It was months after lockdown when I realised that I had managed to convert loneliness into solitude. Not being in physical contact with my friends, helped me become friendly with myself and most importantly, find myself. I looked for things and hobbies to keep my days busy and realised how valuable life and our environment is. I taught myself how to study on my own and

spread awareness on several social issues around the world.

Keeping this in mind, I still have my moments of weakness where I don't do productive things and have panic attacks about the work I have left to do, and I crave social meetings to distract myself even more on such days. But after a while the storm in my mind subsides and I can see the ray of light through the clouds of despair again. It is those moments when I can recognize the silver lining and believe that one can get through these hard times, that keep me moving Ever Forward.

- Alefiyah Rajkotwala - Std IX



Illustrated by Zara Cooper, Std X



## The New Abnormal

When I look back on this year, I am faced with a beautiful and almost painful juxtaposition. To call it a rollercoaster ride would be an understatement, for I experienced the greatest highs and triumphs and yet, there were moments of pure destitution and helplessness and sometimes, the lines between the two blurs. We are living in what I like to call the new abnormal (coincidentally, the name of one of my favourite albums) for these times feel like the pages of a dystopian novel and I feel that we spend too much time focusing on “productivity” and “efficiency”. Modern society has placed yet another unrealistic expectation on us of continuing with our lives as before, in the midst of this new abnormal. This simply adds to multiple acts of self-harm that our society culturally rewards and we are once again, reduced to the market value of our labour.

And that's why I say, stop and savour those moments of “unproductivity”. Take an extra minute to gaze at the canvas of colours in the evening sky as dew drops prick the naked soles of your feet. You deserve a break, a chance to press

the pause button, and you should. Sometimes, the best way ever forward is to take a step back and re-evaluate, move ever forward from the unwritten laws that govern modern society. The end result will be a renewed and refreshed perspective and that makes all the difference in the world.

- Tanya Syed - Std. X



Illustrated by Eve Remedios, Std. X

## Ever Forward

*When the past grasps my wrist  
I find it difficult to resist  
Visiting those painful memories  
That often rouse me from my reveries*

*But with what little strength I possess  
I tell myself that unless  
I wish to live as a frightened coward  
The best thing to do is to move Ever Forward*

*My strength doubles in size  
Opening my eyes, causing me to realise  
That to carry on, one must break the chains  
That confine them to their agonizing pains*

*I understand, and I bear in mind  
That to continue going, I must leave the past behind  
And so, with my head held high,  
I move Ever Forward, and I say 'Goodbye!'  
To every bad moment I have faced in the past  
And find my Happily Ever After at long last...*

- Mahieka Gidwani - Std IX



Illustrated by Alefiyah Rajkotwalla, Std. IX



Illustrated by Eve Remedios, Std. X



## Finding a motto

At this point it's almost tiring hearing about "How hard this year has been for everyone." It is true, this year has been something out of a dystopian apocalypse movie, but the fact of the matter is that this abnormal lifestyle we have is the new normal. For some, it was easy to slip into a productive routine and go on with life. Some of us do have routines, except they usually just consist of eating, sleeping and barely managing. Then there's the other lot who ping pongs between doing nothing and way too much. I would categorise myself as the latter.

I never realised how important it actually is to have a motto until now. When I hear the word

motto, I think of cheesy sayings and WhatsApp forwards, but the mottos you really resonate with are those that actually reflect the way you conduct yourself and live your life. A motto doesn't have to be motivational words strung in a sentence, it can just be something that represents what gets you out of bed everyday, whether it's your morning coffee or your amazon package waiting with the Chowkidar.

Sometimes it's about ignoring deadlines and watching your favourite show, or picking out a cute outfit and doing your makeup, to make you feel ready for the day. Ultimately, it's the little things we do everyday that anchor our sense of regularity.

It's important to prioritise yourself once in a while. In a time where it's easy to feel disconnected from the world, take the time to reconnect with yourself.

- Samina Bandukwala - Std. X

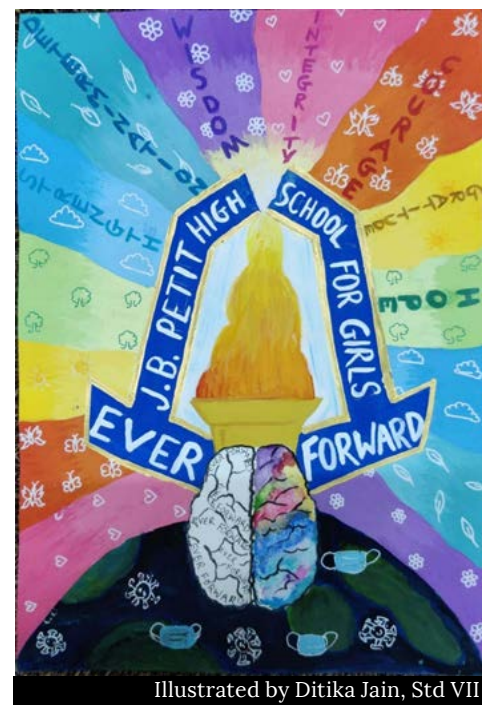


Illustrated by Alefiya Dhansura, Std. IX

## When the days grew long

When the days grew long, and the sweet release of sleep,  
Seemed so far away, that I couldn't help but weep,  
When the darkness seeped in through the cracks in my bones,  
And the sins I had committed, were ones I couldn't atone,  
When I couldn't kick to the surface as the water pulled me down,  
When despite all my fighting, all I did was drown,  
When the chains grew too tight for me to bear,  
And I felt myself sink into a pool of despair,  
When the clouds grew too heavy for my narrow shoulders,  
When every step ahead felt like moving boulders,  
When the flames were too tall, and burned too bright,  
And it was a tremendous effort to simply stay upright,  
When the only thing keeping me going,  
Were two words I couldn't stop knowing,  
Over and over I continuously ordered,  
Myself to repeat the words: Ever forward.

- Naysa Seth - Std IX



Illustrated by Ditika Jain, Std VII



Illustrated by Sanaya Bendre, Std VII



Illustrated by Ditya Wadhvani, Std VII



Illustrated by Sampada Muthukrishnan, Std VII



Illustrated by Sanaya Bendre, Std VII



Raw talent that is carefully groomed and nurtured holds the key to success.

## Collins Poetry Writing Competition 2021:

On the occasion of World Poetry Day- March 21st, Collins Learning India held a poetry competition for students of Stds. III to VIII.

The best poems were later read out on March 23rd during a Webinar: 'The Magic of Poetry' by Mr. Rajeevan Karal; renowned educator, teacher trainer and author.

The three winning entries, out of the 2000+ entries received from children all over Mumbai, were all students of JB! Mr. Karal stated that he was indeed very impressed with their evocative poems and the different styles and techniques used by our girls.

The winners were:

First Place: Iman Furniturewala (Std. VIII) - Her poem on the ongoing pandemic was titled, 'Confined'.

Second Place: Ditya Wadhwani (Std. VII) Her poem on her younger brother was titled, 'My Little Hero'.

Third Place: Anaya Bawa: (Std. VIII) The poem was titled, 'An Unforgettable Performance'.

Heartiest congratulations to all our budding poets!

## Std X, Farewell Celebration

On 26th March 2021, the school held a simple yet meaningful virtual farewell for our Std. X batch of students.

The girls relived cherished memories of their years in JB through a short, lively but touching skit. Fatema and Reya, our Headgirl and President, gave a beautiful speech together that took everyone down memory lane, lending an emotional but happy atmosphere to the memorable event.

Principal BP Kutar's address to the girls showed clearly how special the girls were to her and how

much she would miss them. In fact, many teachers shared similar sentiments, and one and all wished them the very best for their future.

A special class and a special farewell: the first class that went through totally online and will be passing out without a single offline class on campus. We salute them and our hearts go out to them- our very special Batch of 2021.

## Hindi Elocution Competition (Middle School):

To kickstart the academic year, on April 8th, students from Stds.V - VII assembled together on Zoom for a Hindi poetry oration competition of the highest calibre. The Hindi Inter House Elocution Competition was organized by our Head girl, Arpita Sadh, President, Tanya Syed and Vice President, Diana Nagporewalla, under the guidance of their teachers. The Head girl and President compered the event, assisted by the Vice-President who timed all the participants who were given 1 min - 1.5 mins to recite their poems.

In these challenging times, we are all wrought with feelings of anxiety, stress and uncertainty, so in order to lift the spirits of teachers and students alike, the theme for the event was humour.

Participants from all three houses: Rose, Lotus and Jasmine, enthralled the viewers with their delightful recitation of poems on a variety of topics ranging from the perils of exams and online schooling, to interesting train journeys. The captains of all three Houses truly put their heart and soul into this event which translated into the spectacular recitations by all the talented participants.

Based on the judges' decision, Principal BP Kutar announced the results- It was Lotus house which emerged victorious!

A hearty congratulation to our winners:

1. Riana Chokshi, Std.V from Rose house
2. Namya Bagri, Std. V from Lotus house



3. Ananya Kanodia, Std. VI from Lotus house.

Congratulations and well deserved!

## Storytelling

Ms. Rachna Narwekar a professional story teller, introduces different worlds to children through stories and believes that dreams do come true. All we need to do is work towards them and turn them into reality.

Invited as a guest speaker to conduct an activity for Std IV, she spoke about the author/ poet Ted Hughes and his work, highlighting the story, "HOW THE DONKEY BECAME".



## Just-a-Minute 2021

The first online, 'Just a Minute' event was held on April 21st. Prior to the event, the teachers-in-charge and the Student Council met a couple of times to tweak the format of the event as it was to be held virtually. The House Captains and Vice Captains were then told to audition and select the participants from Stds. V to VII.

After the participants picked their topics, they were given approx. 40 mins to prepare their narratives. They could refer to a dictionary/ thesaurus and would have one minute to present their speeches.

Our Vice President, Diana Nagporewalla, compered the event, assisted by the Head girl, Arpita Sadh and President, Tanya Syed.

The participants from all three houses: Rose, Lotus and Jasmine, delighted and entertained the audience with their riveting tales on a variety of topics ranging from staffroom anecdotes to failed experiments in cooking, with a participant

even becoming the Principal of our school! The participants displayed their oratory skills and were confident to say the least.

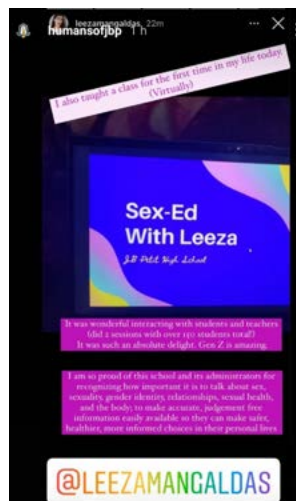
At the end of the competition, after the judges comments, Principal, Ms. B.P. Kutar announced the results and it was Lotus House that emerged victorious.

The winners of the competition were:

1. Delaara Amaria, Std.VII- Lotus house
2. Amie Nagporewalla, Std. VI- Jasmine house
3. Dia Vidhani, Std.V- Jasmine house

## Session on Sexuality Education:

Comprehensive Sexuality Education is recognised as an "age-appropriate, culturally relevant approach to teaching about sexuality and relationships by providing scientifically accurate, realistic, non-judgemental information."



Our school, organized a virtual talk on Sexuality Education for students of Stds. IX & X on April 23rd.

As a girls school, we believe that it is imperative for our students to be exposed to authentic, accurate information on sex, provided in a safe space wherein they can clear doubts, seek clarification and have exposure to valid information to address their

queries and concerns alike.

To make this possible, we engaged the help of a young, dynamic, highly qualified speaker, Leeza Mangaldas, who is considered India's foremost sex positive voice on the internet, who we were sure would deal with the topic in a professional manner. Her session covered educational content around sexuality, sexual health, consent, boundaries, gender relationships and the body.



The girls enjoyed, as well as gained from the informative and interactive session. Leeza exhibited an open-minded and non-judgemental attitude, along with having an open, interesting discussion to give our children a clearer insight on the topic. All in all, it was an eye-opener for one and all!

## Cyber Security Awareness – a PTA Initiative:

Covid-19 has shrunk our world, reducing it to nothing beyond the walls of our homes. In the wake of the pandemic, our world has changed significantly. And the most important new fact about the human condition is that we are all now suddenly... connected.

The potential of Information Technology as a valuable learning resource is immense. However, increased connectivity and enhanced access to screens also has its pitfalls, and awareness of cyber safety norms is absolutely essential.

To arm ourselves with this knowledge, the PTA invited Cyber Security expert, Mr. Rakshit Tandon, who conducted extensive targeted online sessions with the entire school parent body, students & teachers on June 4 & 5, 2021 to help cope with the 'new normal' better.



## A Walk on the Wild Side with Sae:

A 'Talk cum Interactive Session on Nature and Wildlife Conservation' was held for the students and parents of Stds. VI and VII on Friday, 18th June at 12.10 pm. Our JB girls, who are already mini green warriors, were at their excited best as they joined in.

The session was led by an inspiring lady naturalist, Sae Gundawar, who took our girls on an enthralling journey showcasing her own life as a nature lover cum conservationist. Through her eyes, the audience became aware of the obstacles and challenges she had faced along the way and the reasons why she decided to take up this unusual, yet deeply satisfying profession. Sae transported the audience to the Forsyth Lodge, which is nestled in the Satpuras, in Madhya Pradesh. Her knowledge and understanding of the flora and fauna revealed a world where one could walk with the majestic tiger, watch leopards chase their prey, sloth bear cubs frolic with the mother bear, birds call out to each other and much more. The session was filled with a wild exchange of questions and answers- the girls answered Sae's questions with great enthusiasm and asked her several interesting and pertinent questions, leaving her deeply impressed and elated with their level of interest, knowledge and deep understanding of the natural world.

This talk which had been specially curated and designed to suit the interests of our girls, surely fulfilled its goal and will go a long way to encourage them further to explore the many fascinating facets of Mother Nature, broaden their outlook, and hopefully create many more conservationists and guardians of Mother Nature.



## Digital Citizenship: The Potential and Pitfalls of Living Online

An online session on Cyber Security for students of Stds. IX & X was held on June 24, 2021. This session was conducted by renowned writer and tech journalist, Ms. Madhumita Venkatraman on Digital Citizenship - The Potential and Pitfalls of Living Online. An informative, interactive and interesting session!

## Fun with Shadows

“Students of Std. II experiment with a variety of hands-on activities as they learn about light and its properties, and discover the scientific principles of how shadows form.”



## JB Mock MUN 2021

The annual JB Mock MUN was held on the 19th and 20th of June, 2021 with great fervor and enthusiasm, online. Students from classes VIII, IX and X participated and showcased their diplomatic and negotiating skills as they debated and discussed the very important topic; The Israel Palestine Conflict, across three committees. This year's secretariat did a stupendous job of organizing and conducting the event in an extremely professional and a creative way. Our students have made us proud yet again.



## Harvard Model United Nations Dubai 2021

Harvard Model United Nations Dubai 2021 is an international conference that strives to foster a constructive forum for open dialogue on a range of complex issues, revolving around international peace, security and global progress. HMUN prides itself on a legacy of excellence, diplomacy and



conflict resolution, with over 400 students from all over the world participating in 10 diverse committees.

This year five of our students represented JB in this highly prestigious event and performed exceptionally well, with the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of our school both winning the Outstanding Delegate award in their respective committees. We are extremely proud of each and every one of our participants for their hard-work and perseverance in maintaining our school's high level of debate at this distinguished conference.

## Senior Hindi Elocution for Students of Stds. VIII, IX & X on July 1, 2021

On the 1st of July, 2021, students from grades VIII, IX & X and our school's faculty, assembled together on the Zoom platform to witness the Senior Hindi Elocution. It was an event organized by our Senior School Hindi teacher, Mr. Pandey, the Head girl, Arpita Sadh, President Tanya Syed, Vice President, Diana Nagporewalla. This event truly showcased the crème de la crème of the J.B. Petit High School. The level of confidence and performance was absolutely splendid.

While the Middle School Hindi Elocution had focused on more light hearted topics, this Senior Hindi Elocution event was more serious and sombre, with students of grades VIII, IX & X exploring and presenting their views on topics through beautiful works of poetry and prose like patriotism, love for one's nation, the sacrifices our servicemen make and the deeper meaning of humanity. Some of the light hearted poems recited also highlighted how the Covid 19 virus



has affected our lives and really aroused feelings of nostalgia when it came to the topic of going back to school. The poems were enthralling and recited with fiery passion that was superbly communicated by our skilled participants even through an online platform.

The event was excellently compered by the Head girl and the President; and timed by our Vice President. The honourable judges for this event were Mr. Pathak and Ms. Anusha Singhal who, along with our Principal, Ms. Kutar gave their sound advice and comments after the event. Towards the end of this event, it was Jasmine House who emerged victorious; however, all the three houses' talented participants put up soul stirring displays and recitations.

A hearty congratulation to our winners: -

1. In first place- Sanjana Singh, VIIIB (Jasmine House) and Ishita Agarwal, IXB (Jasmine House)
2. In second place- Insiyah Readymadewala, XA (Lotus House) and Dhruti Vora, IXB (Rose house)

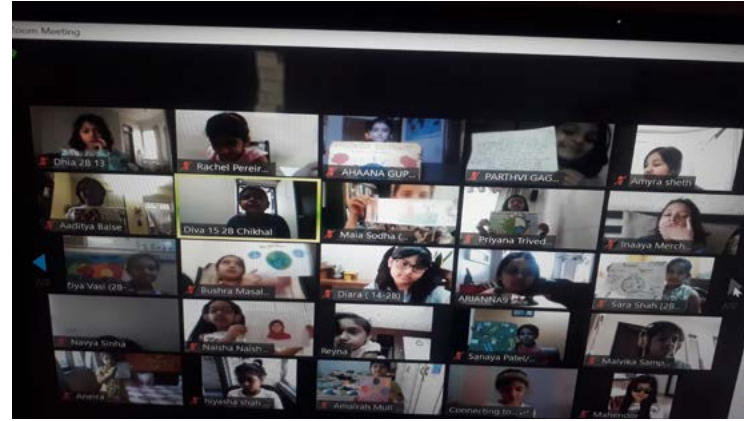
This highly anticipated event, preceded by weeks of hard work by participants and the Student Government, was seamless and was yet another successfully carried out Inter House co-curricular event.

## Heal the world

Empowered with the self-drive to make a change in their own way, to "Heal The World",

The environment conscious, young and zealous minds of Std II came together for this project. They used tremendous creativity to express themselves very simply and lucidly to show the essence of some powerful, relevant and thought-provoking themes such as Empathy, Love, Educate the Girl Child, Family Time, Save the Earth, Healthy living, Community participation, to name a few.

Well researched speeches, straight from the heart sketches, handmade posters with messages, monologues, well timed group comic act, poems, songs were all rendered with bubbling enthusiasm. It was a great way to encapsulate the EVE learnings for the academic year and help gain a broader understanding of our world environment.



## The Garden Tour

The children of grade III and IV had an exciting virtual tour with Dr Medha Shringarpure and her little grand daughters. The rooftop garden in her five-storeyed apartment is thriving; she grows figs, grapes, papayas, pineapples, pomegranates, seasonal vegetables such as okra and aubergine, sweet potatoes and a variety of leafy greens. The daily harvest is shared with the building's residents. There is also a small butterfly patch for children and a variety of seasonal flowers blossom on creepers and shrubs. The children were inspired to start their very own vegetable patch, taking a lot of tips from Dr Shringarpure.



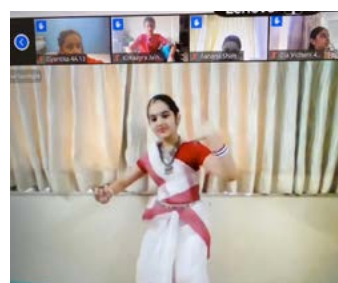
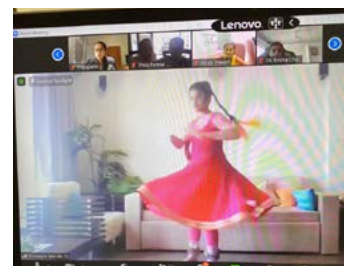
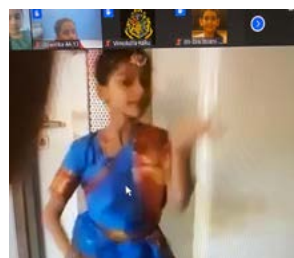
## Senior English Debate

Creativity and adaptability are emerging as the key words of this pandemic, and our students are no strangers to these skills. The English Debate Competition was held on June 23, 2021 for students of Stds. IX & X. The Debate Captains seamlessly transitioned the Senior English Debate onto a virtual platform, ensuring that all technical and logistical aspects of the new format were taken care of. The topic for Std. IX was, 'Inclusive education must be enforced across all schools in India' & for Std. X, 'Cancel Culture has gone too far'. These topics were given 2 hours prior to the competition to enable them to prepare their speeches, using the internet for their research. Following the ICSE Debate format, after their speech each speaker had to answer questions from the opposing teams to defend their stand and convince the judges of their case. What ensued was a thoroughly engaging debate with participants who were extremely well prepared, eloquent and confident. The questions posed showed depth of analysis and a clear attention to detail, while the answers given reiterated the extent of research that each participant had equipped themselves with. The audience comprising of teachers & students was left marvelling at the skills of the participants as well as the student moderators and once more the students superseded all expectations.

the zoom classes of children from 6th to 10th. The children were shown a clip from The Peaceful Warrior which talked about the destination being more important than the journey, about how if we are present, if we do what we do with skill and presence of mind, that is really an act of yoga. If we just focus on the goal and don't pay attention to the journey, then in terms of inner outcomes we have failed, however successful the outer outcomes are. The children were taught an energising sequence including vinyasas and left to contemplate the thought that it's the journey that gives us happiness, not the goal.

## Dances and classical music of India

In conjunction with the topic DANCES AND CLASSICAL MUSIC OF INDIA, the talented girls of Std IV showcased the Odishi, Bharat Natyam and Kathak dance forms. The Koli and Ghoomar folk dances too were performed. A few girls learning Hindustani and Carnatic music regaled the class with their melodious voices.



## International Yoga Day on June 21, 2021

We celebrated the International Yoga Day at JB on 21st June during the morning classes on zoom. The event started with Std X and some of our ex-students who had missed Yoga International Day last year going into



## Charity Fund Collection Drive for Covid-19 afflicted individuals in need:

This year, yet again, our girls rose to the occasion to collect and contribute towards a worthy cause- to help the needy and destitute, afflicted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The school continued to collaborate with TAUP and Habitat for Humanity from the Ketto platform, to collect funds to provide essential items and hygiene kits to those who most need them all over India. However, to meet the need of the times, oxymeters and thermometers were also added. The funds collected would further be used to supply oxygen cylinders on a priority basis in needed areas.

The school effort was a 15-day collection drive, from May 9 to 23, 2021. 153 girls from Stds. IV to X participated wholeheartedly; a total amount of Rs 53,11,770/- was collected. The entire student government worked collaboratively to garner support for the initiative and encouraged

the participants daily, to reach their goals. Special mention must be made of Insiyah Readymadewalla, of Std. X, who pioneered the idea to carry out this noble endeavour two years in a row! All in all, it was a fruitful and satisfying experience for all.

jbpetithighschool.ketto.org



## JB Petit High School x TAUP x HFH

TOTAL RAISED

**₹53,11,770**

FROM TARGET ₹60,17,500

DONORS

**1,748**



Illustrated by Ananya Patel, Std IV



Illustrated by Mahika Potwar, Std IV



Illustrated by Trisha Gupta, Std IV



Illustrated by Freyana Driver, Std IV



Illustrated by Priyana Trivedi, Std III



Illustrated by Reyana Singhi, Std III



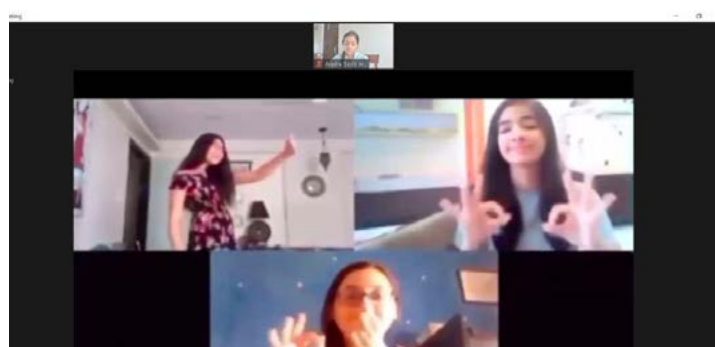
## MOOD N MIME by students of Stds. IX & X on June 11, 2021

The J.B. spirit has always fostered in us the ability to be undaunted by crisis, and through this pandemic that has really been put to a test; while also showing how the school community has truly risen to the occasion. The first ever virtual Mood n Mime that was held this year is a testament to the students' capacity not to be pulled down and use their creativity to put together a show that was truly memorable. While the basic framework of the event remained the same with the students being given a sentence starter, which was – **In Search Of...** this year, and having to build a story around it, the format was completely different. Each class was required to pre-record their play using zoom or any other type of video format, and put it all together through some highly skilled editing. Not only did each class come up with an original and unique storyline, but they also managed to edit their work in ingenious ways and used close ups and fades to convey time, changes

in mood, location etc. They also took great care to choose music that helped create the mood and convey a variety of emotions which held the audience captive for the duration of their play.

What was remarkable was that each class had mass participation, new skills that required technological prowess were learnt and put to use, and all of this was done with immense enthusiasm and the desire not to lose out on a much-loved event of the year. The event once again showed us how resilient our students are, as well as how quickly they can learn new skills and utilize them in truly unique ways.

The event will definitely be fondly remembered by staff and students alike and has also served as a motivator to the school community in reminding them that school and education is not limited to a building or the walls of a classroom.





## The School is Silent but our Legacy lives on

Who knew that we'd be afflicted by a pandemic?  
That physical school days would become just a relic  
Once, students would long for online school  
But now, it just doesn't seem so cool!

For more than a year our big gong hasn't rung,  
Our school anthem, Ever Forward, hasn't been sung  
Our classrooms are empty, staircases seem eerie  
The once noisy quadrangle now seems so dreary

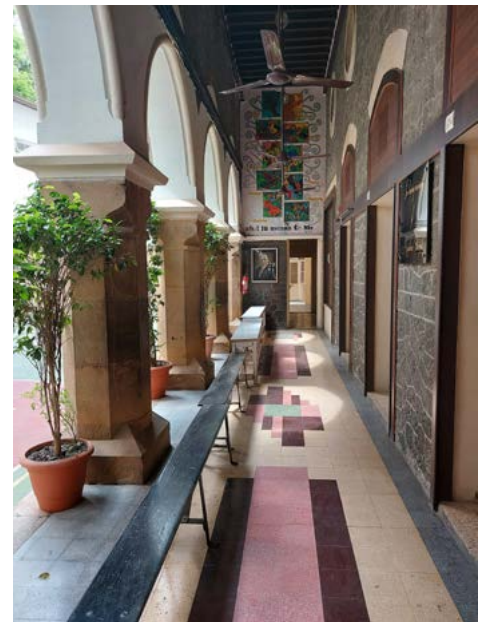
The libraries are silent, no ruffles of paper  
Voices of chattering students, evaporated into vapour  
The ever-helpful staff, no longer bustle about, corridors forlorn  
Without our fabulous school, our minds and hearts are torn

Delicious food smells from the cookery room no longer there...  
Without us, JB is empty; and we're empty without JB- this is just not fair.  
In the Auditorium, no outstanding events taking place  
The thought that our return to school is still a dream, brings tears to our face

The school is silent but our proud Legacy lives on...  
To return, we must follow Covid protocols instead of mourn  
With life and joy, the hallways will fill once again  
Back in our classrooms, back to papers and pens

We'll chatter, make noise, prank our teachers once more  
Cheer and yell for our Houses till our throats are sore  
We just have to wait for a little bit more...  
- Then we'll get back to school, have fun and learn to the core!

- Thea Gandhi - Std.VIII



## A Word of Gratitude

No parks, school or parties,  
Oh, how sad that could be!  
But I decide to be grateful,  
And appreciate the bounty that  
surrounds me.

Family showing care and concern,  
Love and affection to everyone.  
'Health is wealth' is what they say,  
And Covid-19 has proved it in every  
way.

Happy meals with family together,  
With the gift of food and a roof over my  
head.

Sorrows and miseries are easy to find,  
But look ever forward to the small joys  
in life.

Technology has made life so easy,  
Almost like butter on bread.

Peace and protection wished everyday.  
With that, our motto, we shall strive!

- Aileen Chagani - Std IV



Illustrated by Yesha Jain, Std. X

## If your life was a book with your name on it

Sun swims low as stars flicker on. Neon lights blur in the pools of water that collect in cracked cobblestones. Bright lights and signs screaming at the cars zooming by who pretend they can't hear. Cars and traffic honking in packs, bustling people weaving through. Tired workers heading home, others ready to live all night, weaving through the cracks in the pavements and puddles. On the end of the lively street, sits a tired library, small and hidden. The lettering across the sign is faded, and the bricks in the walls are chipped, but the candles inside keep burning all night. Nobody can see it, it's invisible to those who don't know of its existence, shy and cloaked in moss. What if I told you that inside the haven is a book, the leather distressed, the pages crinkled, the gold foiled title glistening with promise.

What if I told you I found a book with your name on it. A book about your life with your name on it. It felt heavy in my hands, heavy with tears and laughter, heavy with dreams and unfulfilled promises. I felt frozen in place, prickling with excitement and goosebumps, too fearful to open it, yet desiring to. So, I've been meaning to ask you, what will I find inside?

Which section shines the brightest, Past, Present or Future? Are your pages crinkled and chewed with doubt? Would the chapters be spent fretting over the future? Don't spend your precious days wallowing in indecision. One day you'll wake up, and ten years would have left your grasp. Will the margins be full of doodles, of distractions,

ways to avoid the things you need to do? Are the sentences always questions? What if things change? Do I want things to change? Never be afraid of change. Resist it, and you'll never know that you, a thorn bush, were really a rose. Would the pages be laden with regret? Would the book feel like it was reading backwards, like your thoughts were stuck in the past? Are you still holding on, clinging to dusty memories? Memories are always distorted, rose tinted. Never rely on them. They blind you to the parts you ache to forget. The past is not your home, do not live in it. Look toward the ever promising future. The words wanting to move on, but not knowing how? Or would the story be of a different you, would the story tell of a strong you, who held their head up high and put one foot in front of the other, even though their limbs felt heavy?

Would the chapters start with how you kept going, moving forward, when every atom in you screamed to stop? And would the chapters end with your victories, how you've reached further than you ever thought you could, because you lifted your chin to the stars, and rose Ever Forward to kiss them?

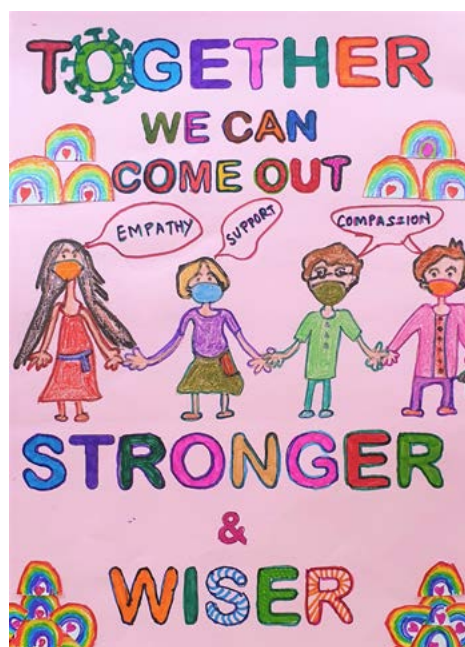
There's a quaint library, on the tip of this busy street. Inside, you could find a book about your life, with your name across the front. And let me tell you, the last page is blank. You have the rest of your book to write, so make each syllable count.

- DIANA NAGPOREWALLA - Std IX

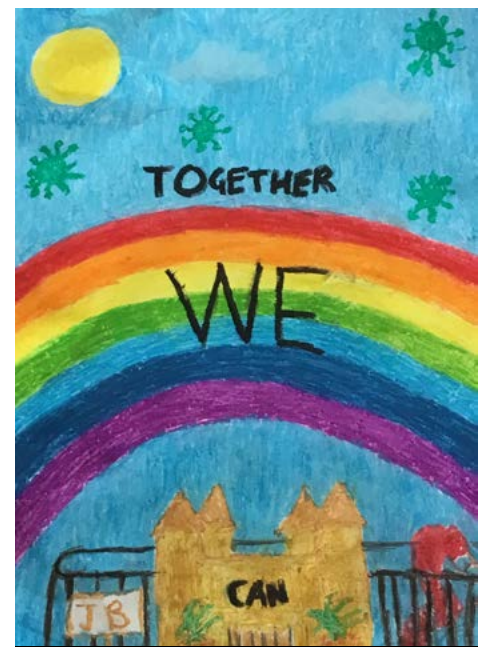




Illustrated by Aanya Nowlakha, Std III



Illustrated by Aahana Gupta, Std III



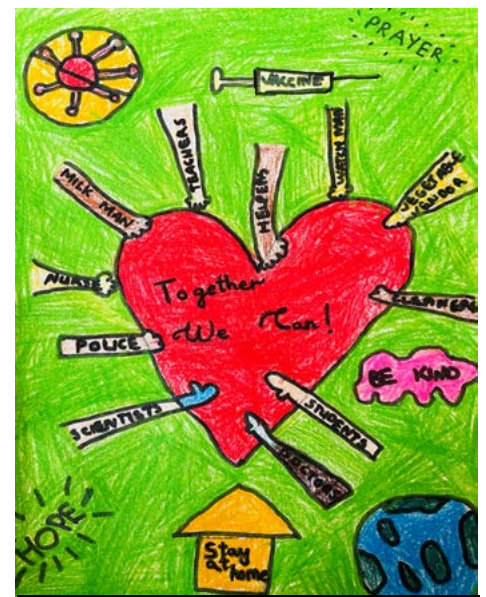
Illustrated by Aanya Oak, Std IV



Illustrated by Meher Medhora, Std IV



Illustrated by Mahira Verma, Std IV



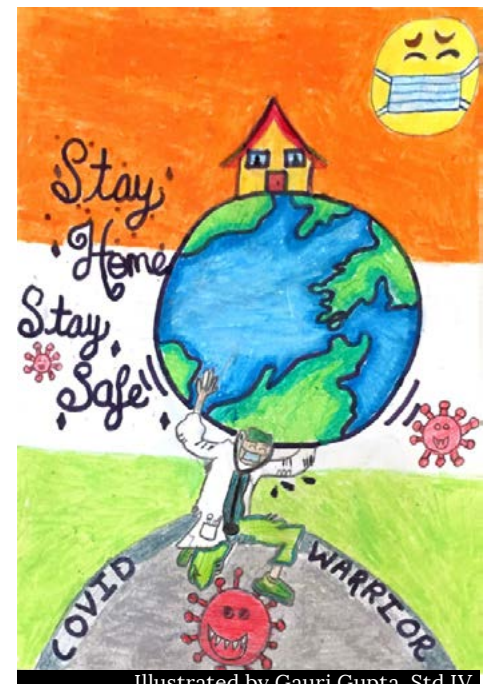
Illustrated by Naisha Naik, Std III



Illustrated by Ayesha Sen, Std IV



Illustrated by Aria Desai, Std IV



Illustrated by Gauri Gupta, Std IV





Illustrated by Ariea Shah, Std X



Illustrated by Tanya Syed, Std X

## An Unforgettable Performance

The room was a plush purple and gold,  
With her slender, fair fingers, the girl a story wove,  
Her voice was ethereal and unwavering,  
Her concentration definitely overpowering,  
Slowly but gradually, with fingers and voice,  
She reached a crescendo with remarkable poise.  
The music around her was all that mattered,  
Regardless of the applause that around her smattered,  
Around the room there was an enchanted silence,  
Nothing to be heard apart from the sound of the violins.

All of a sudden, the music ceased.  
After what felt like a second, was really hours, the tension dropped.  
Even though there were no words, only vocals,  
The audience heard something not classified as local.  
It was a story of love and rage and pain,  
And left on their hearts and in their minds, a permanent stain.  
As she took her final bow after a while,  
They could have sworn her face, for a split second,  
Was lit up by the ghost of a smile.

- Anaya Bawa - Std VIII

## SPRING IS IN THE AIR

The languorous sun finally awakens,  
After the bitter and bare winter season.  
Perceiving its beams which had then bid goodbye,  
The budding roses blossom and smile.

The gruelling months of icy chills have gone by,  
The hidden red ants come marching out and utter  
a sprightly cry.

The lounging deck chairs are back,  
Our sun-kissed feet make sand tracks.

As Spring mounts with blooms galore,  
Mother Nature hurrahs and heralds the colours.  
Life sprouts alive on the luscious earth,  
The hibernating red bear rises from his berth.

Monarch butterflies spread their wings upon sea  
and sky,

As candyfloss snow white clouds float by.  
In the warm winds, the Lilioms sway jubilantly,  
While the frisky Ringed Kingfishers chirrup  
zestily.

Hovering and prancing from flower to flower,  
Sipping in satisfaction from the nectar they  
devour.

The pollen that makes us snuffle which we don't  
quite favour,

Is what the buzzing bees most desire and savour.

Three months of bliss and bling,  
The fructuous spirit of Spring brings.  
Where wilderness heals ...  
And Nature thrives and wins.

- Dhriti Shah - Std VII



Illustrated by Kaavya Jhaveri, Std X



Illustrated by Parinaz Patel, Std X



## My Little Hero

We stick to each other like jelly on bread,  
Like cheese on pizza,  
And a hat on a head.  
Guess whom I'm talking about?  
Little Rohan boy.

Little Rohan boy is a star of mine,  
He stares at me with his twinkling eyes all the time.

I love him and he loves me,  
Buzzing around like a busy bee.

He gives me the sly smile when he's done something wrong,  
And he loves to hear all my favourite songs.

Rohan makes unusual sounds,  
Jumping, flapping and running around.

He has something called Autism you really can't see,  
All you can do is really just feel.

He tries to interact by shouting and flapping,  
And he loves the noises of people clapping and snapping.

He loves to eat watermelons and mangoes too,  
And I won't change my brother for even a day or two.

- Ditya Wadhvani - Std VII

## Rainbow on a Vacation

Little Miss Muffet took a luxurious vacation,  
Wearing a dash of bright pink foundation  
Flying on a private plane to the north of Spain  
Oh my! It suddenly threatened to rain.  
A wild storm brewed so fast,  
Leaving in its path a Rainbow at last  
Little Miss Muffet heaved a sigh of relief  
And watched the Rainbow create a vibrant curved reef.

- Kimaayra Jain - Std V



Illustrated by Rhea Jain, Std X



Illustrated by Jiah Mistry, Std IX

## Confined

Do you miss those cherished days of sunlight  
Where you could roam this Earth free?  
For now we are stuck in confinement,  
Drowning in utter and complete misery.

Do you miss the days where you could interact  
And breathe in that pure, sweet air?  
We all long and crave for it...  
Alas, that luxury is no longer there!

The time we find ourselves in today  
Differs greatly from the past.  
How come we're rotting at home all day?  
Why do good things never last?

We claw and clutch at our windowsills,  
The outside we so desperately long.  
We never did value those 'good old days'  
And now it seems we never can, because they're gone.

This claustrophobic, alien life seems to last forever!

But like everything, it will end.  
Patience is a great gift from God  
So we just wait for the good times he will send.

- Iman Furniturewala - Std VIII

## School at Home

School online,  
School at home.  
No one to sit with  
I am in my own WI-FI zone

40 logged in,  
But the teacher logged out!  
A few screens frozen  
While the rest giggling about

When will this end?  
I want to stop this online trend  
Going back to school  
Would be oh so very cool!

- Samaira Gandhi - Std V



Illustrated by Eva Vora, Std IX

## Imagination

You probably think  
I'm doing homework of mine  
But really, I'm watching the scales  
Of a dragon shine

I'm supposed to be doing  
An assignment in history  
But there I am, with the best fictional detectives  
Solving a mystery

Presume I'm writing geography  
Watching the globe  
But I'm a superspy  
Placing bombs to explode

I'm puzzling over English  
At least, that's what you think  
I'm a cowgirl riding in the West  
Listening to the horse's saddle clink

I'm flipping through my Math book  
Watching it go from open to close  
Then I'm a part of a tribe  
Shooting arrows

My Social Studies journal  
Is open right next to me  
But I'm a pirate  
Fighting on a ship in the sea

The writing in my Science Book  
Turns into enchantments and spells  
As I'm a witch duelling  
And in Hogwarts I dwell

I'm a demigod  
Fighting monsters of evil  
When I'm supposed to be studying  
The times of medieval

What is this magic?  
How do I watch it flow in my head?  
It's imagination  
And I like to use that instead.

- Ira Chandran - Std V

## Humanity

The bread that fills every basket  
The wine that flows through every vein  
A common greed spread on the table  
Craving desires on a burning flame.

Yet the bread is torn not sliced  
And a chalice too many to hold  
The candle feeble in light  
Behold a discriminate dark world.

Rejected by colour  
And abandoned by creed  
Dishonored by bondage  
The desolate mind weeps.

The Lord speaketh  
For no form but dust  
For no name to recall  
Embrace the grace  
For all rivers merge  
Into the same sea.

- Shanaya Sen - Std VIII

## Lockdown 2020

I sanitize to fight germs,  
Wear a mask and gloves.  
I clean and wash,  
And follow a twenty second hand wash.

I exercise so I'll grow,  
Google Classroom helps me to know.  
I attend Online Birthday parties,  
Scavenger hunt, Housie and creamy rich  
pastries.

I carry a tissue,  
In case I sneeze.  
When the doorbell rings;  
I shout 'Social Distancing, Please!'

I travel the world on my laptop.  
The board games are handy on the table top.  
I eat to find Mr. Immunity,  
And Zoom chat with my community.

Lockdown is not what I asked for,  
But it has given us time to pause.  
I miss my school but discovered a hobby, of  
course;  
Sometimes I wonder, is the Lockdown  
A curse or a boon?

- Riana Chokshi - Std V



various innovative strategies- role play, DIY activities and experiential learning.

Decoding

Cipher Text

Plain Text

Nishtha Online Courses for teachers

The ICSE Council started Nishtha Online Courses on Diksha platform for all CISCE teachers of Stds. I to VIII. Both, Primary and Secondary teachers completed this 3-month course comprising of 6 batches. The details of the Courses covered in the 6 batches are given below.

Batch	Period	Courses
1	Nov 23 to Dec 7, 2020	1. Curriculum & Inclusive Classrooms 2. Developing Personal-Social Qualities (PSQ) for creating a Safe and Healthy School Environment 3. Health & Well-being in Schools
2	Dec 1 to Dec 15, 2020	4. Integrating Gender in Teaching-Learning Process 5. Integration of ICT in Teaching-Learning & Assessment 6. Art Integrated Learning
3	Dec 16 to Dec 31, 2020	7. School based Assessment 8. Pedagogy of Environmental Studies 9. Pedagogy of Mathematics
4	Jan 1 to Jan 15, 2021	10. Pedagogy of Social Sciences 11. Pedagogy of Languages 12. Pedagogy of Science
5	Jan 16 to Jan 31, 2021	13. ICSE: School Leadership- Concepts & Application 14. ICSE: Initiatives in School Education 15. ICSE: Preschool Education
6	Feb 1 to Feb 15, 2021	16. Pre Vocational Education 17. Covid-19 Scenario: Addressing Challenges in School Education 18. Understanding Rights, Child Sexual Abuse & the POCSO Act, 2012



# REMA IYER

9th Jan 1960 – 9th Mar 21

*"I hope one day my students can look back on the time they spent in my class and feel the love I have for them, and smile warmly at some of the memories and always have confidence in themselves."*

Rema Iyer

A virtual staff meeting was held on 19th March 2021, **in loving memory of our beloved former teacher, Ms. Rema Iyer**, who passed away in March 2021 after a long and valiant battle with cancer.

All through the Covid19 lockdown, and despite her frail health and relentless medical treatment, Ms Iyer worked on, never missing a single meeting and carrying out all the duties she was assigned, meticulously and on time.

At the virtual remembrance meeting, teachers, JB alumnae and ex-students all paid glowing tribute to Ms. Iyer. Principal Ms. Kutar and Primary Supervisor Ms. Mishra both recalled her unflinching support and commitment at all times, her loyalty and love for the school.

In this loss, JB has lost one of our best loved and trusted teachers who was a friend, mentor, counsellor and go-to person for one and all.

You will always be remembered with love and gratitude... Rest in peace, Ms. Iyer.

*"Impacted so many, in so many ways..."*

Friyana Pardiwalla

*"A gentle lady and a good human being. You will always have a special place in my heart."*

Ila Dalal

*"Rema left footprints not only on the sands of time, but in the hearts of everyone who ever stepped into JB."*

Lily Mohanty

*"Her DP said it all: Smile. Let everyone know that you're stronger today than you were yesterday. Rema was one of my close friends and I derived my strength from her positive attitude. I will miss her optimism, helpfulness and good nature, her enthusiastic Teachers Day performances, and the super treats she lovingly cooked for us."*

Mehernaz Bhot

*"She battled cancer with great courage, a no-nonsense attitude and humour. JB was on her mind till the very end. Her face always lit up whenever we spoke of Ms. Darasha and I am sure that they're catching up on JB in heaven!"*

Rashna Desai

*"A mentor and a guide who was always supportive; a friend who always guided and advised me."*

Shefali Bhuta

*"When I was married and newly pregnant, she prepared all my evening dabbas for me. She was more like a mother figure to me, she was family."*

Nandita Ahuja





## *The light remains...*

*There are some who bring a light so great in the world, that even after they are gone, the light remains.*

*"Always excited to take up new challenges, Ms. Iyer was a larger-than-life figure at JB. I was so fortunate to have learnt from her past experience and knowledge and I am grateful for all her support."*

Nazia Thanawala

*"Thank you for the warmth, happiness and knowledge you bestowed upon us. Your unwavering strength was an inspiration to us all. Heaven has been blessed with an Angel."*

JBP Alumni Association

*"During school tours, she was our 'safety stamp'; travelling with her provided an 'at ease' feeling."*

Khatija Badar

*"Rema left a lasting impression on me. I will always remember her courage, fortitude and indomitable attitude. Rema's soul is eternal and timeless and she will continue to live in our memories and in the innumerable ways she has touched our lives."*

Primary Supervisor, Ratna Mishra

*"Rema aunty was so much more than a colleague. She has been a part of my life since 1986, when my mum joined JB, and she will always continue to be so."*

Nandita Weling

*"Always ready to help whenever I need it."*

Tinaz Anklesaria

*"Feisty, fearless & forthright, Rema was a rare woman of warm heart and great spirit, beloved by family and friends. She lived a principled life underpinned by a strong sense of right and wrong, and never hesitated to speak out when it really counted. She cared enough to act, to follow through, and she never let anyone or anything stand in the way of what was right. She was JB's 'warrior woman' through and through, and very much her own person. She took on life's many challenges with admirable spirit, courage and fortitude. The limitless vigour with which she pursued life, her boundless bravery and boldness, and her never-quit attitude are her personal legacy."*

Principal BP Kutar

*"You're never given a cross to bear which is heavier than what your shoulders can take. Rema had very strong shoulders. Wish her an ongoing leading pilgrimage, from light to light, peace to peace."*

Anahita Wadia-Sanjana



In our hearts you will always be....