



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

We have come to the end of Chaman Bhartiya School's first academic year. For all of us, this has been a year spent under the shadow of the Covid pandemic. A year of anxiety and fear, a year which also witnessed great optimism, when the situation seemed to improve and filled us with hope for a real opening. And now, a grim situation with the exponential spread of cases, a health care system on the brink of collapse and a country with funeral pyres burning in unusual places. But also hope for an acceleration of the vaccination program and civil society taking over where the government couldn't protect its citizens.

Hence, it is with mixed emotions that we can start the summer vacation – which is usually a time of joy and freedom.

It is safe to say that this academic year is like no other academic year. It must be for the first time in history, where classes for Early Years as well as primary have been delivered only through online platforms.

As you know, I did not want to create an online school for small children. I believe in technology as an essential tool in education, but I want it to be an add-on to face-to-face interaction, not a substitute. But covid gave us no choice. Online schooling is better than no education. And to be honest, I have been surprised to see how efficient it can be.

In the current grim scenario, I think we can be proud of the school we have created. In spite of many obstacles, I feel our first academic year has been very successful.

Our phased implementation of online lessons, which began with short school days and fewer subjects - finally, leading to the implementation of a fully fledged timetable. This plan enabled the learners to adapt to the online format. The learners have made excellent progress, we have created a Chaman Bhartiya School culture and community feeling, we have implemented many of our ideas and vision (by far all). We have even succeeded in implementing Project-Based Learning with the theme of Sustainable community. I have seen extraordinarily engaged and hard-working learners – all of whom have one great dream -to meet for real their classmates and facilitators in the school building. A dream we could not fulfill this year. But there will be other years.

We could not have achieved these results without the support from our parent community. Thank you so much. Your contribution is highly appreciated.

When we meet again in July, I don't know if our mode of delivery will be through online or face-to-face teaching. We will prepare for both scenarios. We will have a school day from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for grades 1 to 7 and from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for Early Years. As the pandemic spreads in India, I guess that school (at least up to grade 5) will not open by July. But hopefully, the Covid situation will improve, so that by autumn we will be allowed to have a real opening.

I wish our parents and learners a happy summer (albeit in the shadow of the pandemic). Many of our near and dear ones have been seriously impacted by the pandemic. And I sincerely appreciate the help and support you are extending to people in need.

**Warm Regards**  
**Allan Andersen, Director**

## PROJECT-BASED LEARNING DIGITAL EXPO

This month, we successfully conducted the Project-Based Learning (PBL) Digital Expo. Our learners were split into 15 groups, each containing students from different grades. The PBL activity was conducted with the following steps and adopted the UN Sustainable Goals in its approach.

Firstly, the various groups are tasked with identifying one problem that the community is facing. The selection of the issue is a process where students take time to observe their surroundings, identify notable concerns, discuss among themselves to eventually land on one topic. These issues varied between environmental issues such as waste management, conservation of resources, pollution, recycling etc, or societal inequalities such as gender based discrimination as well as the protection of stray dogs.

Once the learners concluded on the problem they wanted to tackle, they set out to perform further research on the means by which the problem occurs, its root causes, its contributors as well as the stakeholders involved including people affected and the people in charge who can change the situation. Our facilitators were trained before-hand on the PBL approach and were well-equipped to allow our learners to explore.

Once the required amount of research was done on the problems that were identified, the students discussed and explored various possibilities to try and find solutions to the problems. An important aspect of Project-Based Learning is sustainability. Learners were not just urged to find a solution, they were encouraged to develop a solution that would continue to help in the long run.

Our learners took up this challenge with great enthusiasm, as each group presented their well-thought out, structured solutions, both through a project and presentation to our facilitators and our parent community at CBS. Through PBL, our young learners were not just able to empathise and learn about the issues in the community, but through collaborative effort and creatively strategising, our learners were able to arrive at concrete resolutions to address the pressing concerns around us and also listed sustainable ways to prevent it in the future. The goal of PBL is to train young children to grow up to be responsible adults who are not just empathetic but prepared to deal with challenges of all kinds.



**All genders council**

**Who are we**

All genders is a council which wants to promote gender equality



**Campaign**

Members launch campaigns to increase awareness on gender inequality

**Workshop**

45-minute

Modules conducted by council members

if you want to join please mail-All genders@gmail.com



**council members**

Virat, Trisha, Naomi, Aariz

Gender equality is our main priority







## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT EARLY YEARS

Our Early Years learners were also part of the Project-Based exercise conducted this month. The learners teamed up to form a group called “Power Rangers - Planet Saviours” which focused on a range of environmental issues. While the facilitators were actively providing directions and engaging the learners in activities, our Early Years learners were extremely enthusiastic about creating sustainable change. One of the goals of PBL is to ignite a passion for societal growth from a very young age, allowing them to grow up to being citizens who can trigger change.

The Power Rangers - Planet Saviours produced several different projects addressing different environmental needs. One of the issues they were keen to tackle was waste management. Each learner created an 'Inspiration Robot' which was made completely out of waste materials they found around the house. The purpose was to inspire them to reduce, reuse and recycle and adhere to UN Sustainable Goals.

They were also involved in activities aimed at preventing pollution. Using a plastic plate and a thread, the learners were able to trap pollutants and tiny particles, making the air around them fresher! This experimentative approach of PBL helped the learners participate eagerly in the process. The Early Years learners also were familiarised with the community around them as each was introduced to “community helpers” such as security guards, local policemen etc and understood their roles in making sure people are adhering to environment friendly actions. Similarly, the learners continued their experiments on various environmental issues such as water pollution, waste management, recycling, protection of animals and birds etc. Through this process, our learners not only were able to learn about the causes and effects of these problems but also to prevent and stop them in a sustainable manner in the future.



INSPIRATION ROBOT BY NEEL



COMPILATION CHALLENGE BY VIVAAN



# Trees Project- Saving Trees



Neel



SAVING TREES - PROJECT BY NEEL



PLANET SAVIOURS LOGO

## 5TH GRADE MOVING ON CEREMONY

Recently, all our Grade 5 learners attended their "Moving on Ceremony" as they bade farewell to primary school. It was a celebration of all the 15 students moving from the primary to the middle years. Our director, Mr. Allan Andersen addressed all the students on this memorable occasion, providing some advice on the shift to middle school to help them adapt well. Along with Allan, a TEDx speaker, Mr. Mukund who is an IIM alumnus and a parent spoke about the importance of having a vision and how it can be applied in their lives. The Readers' Theatre was also performed by grade 5 learners and each one of them was awarded "Moving On" certificates.



## MEET OUR STAFF

Ms Jayalakshmi, who joined us in January 2021, as a Middle School co-ordinator, comes with an experience of 9 years in the field of teaching. She has a multi-faceted personality and is a Post-Graduate in Finance. Beyond her professional accomplishments, she is also a proficient classical singer. She found her calling in the teaching profession after a brief stint in a play school which prompted her to take up teaching as a profession. Having then got her Bachelor's degree in Education, Jayalakshmi spent a major part of her career teaching English in a reputed CBSE school in Bangalore from where she moved on as a middle-school coordinator. As a teacher, she has always been constantly pushing herself to try innovative pedagogies even in a traditional set-up, thus pushing her boundaries. According to Ms Jayalakshmi, nothing is more important than seeing a child enjoy learning. In search of continuous learning, she is also pursuing her Diploma programme in Teaching and Learning. Jayalakshmi's aim in education is to be part of a progressive institution like CBS and in turn, innovate and create new learning methods, in order to be part of a child's personal and academic growth.

