

REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire. ~W.B. Yeats

Being literate is empowering. Understanding this, UNESCO declared 8 September as Literacy Day in the year 1966 and since then International Literacy Day is celebrated annually around the world.

This year International Literacy Day (ILD) 2021 was celebrated under the theme "Literacy for a human-centred recovery: Narrowing the digital divide". Following the theme, Bal Bharati Public School, Noida organised various activities for children of all grades to motivate them to learn and teach as many people as they can.

For the students of grades I to V, an online intersection **Spell Bee** competition was organised. Two separate rounds, prelims and finals, were organised for the students. Round 1 was taken online through MS Teams Forms on 1st September 2021 by the respective class teachers during online classes. The student scoring maximum marks in minimum time in a class and section was shortlisted for round 2.

Round 2 was held through the Quizizz software on 3rd September 2021. The student who scored maximum marks in the least time was declared the winner for that class. Students participated enthusiastically in the competition. The learning outcome of this activity was that students were able to improve their spellings, increase their vocabulary and develop correct English usage. They were also able to develop a healthy competitive spirit.



Class 1			Class 2		
Position	Name	Class and Section	Position	Name	Class and Section
First	Trisha Harith	IB	First	Shrestha Agarwal	II D
Second	Darsh Singh	IE	Second	Hezal Puri	ΠE
Third	Ketav Singh Chauhan	IC	Third	Avika Chauhan	II B

Class 3			Class 4		
Position	Name	Class and Section	Position	Name	Class and Section
First	Vedant Bisht	∥ B	First	Parth Viveksheel	IVB
Second	Aarohi Malpuri	III C	Second	Aaradhya Kapoor	IVC
Third	Sayantan Datta	III A	Third	Vidisha Lodhi	IV D

Class 5						
Position	Name	Class and Section				
First	Girisha Sachan	VB				
Second	Navya Jain	VA				
Third	Diya Sharma	VD				
PROUD WINNERS						

The motto of this year's Literacy Day is to bridge the divide that the ongoing pandemic has created. This sudden change has not only increased the need for adopting technology but also created new avenues for learners around the world. However, many students around the world have suffered gravely due to the unavailability or inability to access modern resources.

Considering this, an online webinar on 'Access to Education: Truth & Hope' was conducted on the 7th of September for Classes VI to VIII. The webinar was conducted by our school alumna, now a school leader (Principal) working with a non-profit organization - iTeach Schools - in Pune, Ms. Antra Karmakar. Her school provides free quality Englishmedium Education to students from low income backgrounds. She firmly believes that every child deserves an excellent education and that the state of poverty cannot dictate their destiny.

Students of Classes VI to VIII participated actively in the webinar and put forth questions to help students in need. Ms. Antra Karmakar shared her experience of working with the students from impoverished backgrounds and the challenges she faced during the pandemic. She motivated everyone to actively participate and help students learn during these unprecedented times.

The Vice Principal, Ms Anupama Motwani also highlighted the importance of education for each individual and reminded our privileged students to be grateful for having all the facilities to be able to continue their learning even during such unprecedented times. The discussion ended with the take away that every child deserves education and we as a society can contribute to make the world a better place for all learners.



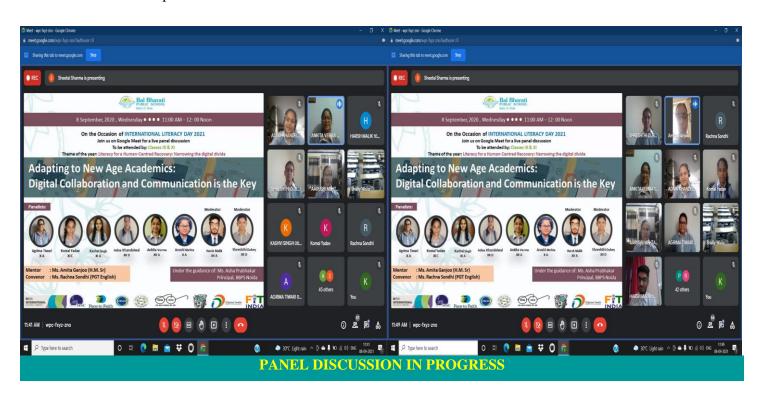
GLIMPSES OF THE WEBINAR

On 8th Sep.2021, a Panel Discussion was held for Classes X-XI on the topic-'Adapting to New Age Academics- Digital Collaboration & Communication is the key.'

Six student panelists and two moderators from Classes X to XII engaged in an intense discussion on how Online Classes helped in developing the much needed 21st century skills of collaboration and communication. At places, the interaction meandered towards light-hearted banter that one experiences during virtual classes, thus making the conversation extremely interesting and relatable.

Both the Vice Principal, Ms Anupama Motwani and HM (Senior) Ms Amita Ganjoo spoke about the importance of honing conversation skills that will give the learners an edge over the others after crossing the portals of the school. Students of XI-A gave a thumbs up to Online classes as they saved time and proved to be a boon in tiding over the bleak scenario since the pandemic has redefined the education system by placing digital literacy over everything else.

The Panel Discussion ended on a note that more such interactions be held regularly to teach the students to speak fearlessly with elan and oodles of panache.



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