



## From Head's Desk

August 2021



Let's begin this newsletter by listening to this song. A favourite of many. Click  $\underline{\text{here}}$ 

It is ten years since we had the first student walk into the gates of the School. For the FIRST TIME. The 10 years have gone by so quickly, and I realise it only when I meet with those early students, now as Middle / High Schoolers or as recent graduates. I also realise it when some colleagues fondly recollect their early days of being at the School. They had all joined us nine years ago and are our pioneering group.

Each year, a lot of thought, time and effort goes into planning how the year can be something memorable and eventful for our community at AAIS. We think through different engagements, finding opportunities to bring a fresh breath into what we do, keeping in mind the theme for the year. The pandemic has not stopped us from our focus; we were able to take the Sports day, *Thiran* (The Annual AAIS Cultural event) and even *Mahogany* - our well-being programme online, successfully. We seamlessly integrated the theme, 'Connection', into every celebration and event at the School in 2020. Here is what our Students put together and shared with us that recaps the year, through their eyes.

The community, as a whole, has been able to pull through with grace and elegance.

Today, as we stand in our 10th year, we have reimagined the ways in which our Vision & Mission play out. Each year, the theme chosen becomes a part of every initiative at School. It has always united us across the campuses, across the different roles and responsibilities we each have; giving us a direction, aligning with our Mission. Every summer, we give much thought into carving out a theme that will resonate with what is happening around us and what best can bring us together, as a community. Many of you will remember the themes from the previous years - Change, Responsibility, Perspective and so on. This year too, we looked deeply for a meaningful theme that will encompass the entire range of experiences, emotions and energies we all have. How do we capture the ever changing world, our impressions of what is happening around us, bring a fresh perspective or approach, actively seek opportunities and continue to grow as an individual?

And I am truly excited to share the theme for 2021 - "A Whole New World", inspired by the famous song from the Disney movie, Aladdin. The lyrics of the song resonate completely with our sentiment and belief. Here is a year that will define new horizons, allow us to explore endless opportunities, raise our hopes, freewheel through the experiences and bounce back, every time.

When we all work together, in tandem, through the year, I am sure it will be a thrilling chase, giving us new fantastic points of views and we can reach that wondrous place, 'a whole new world'out there.

