

HIGH - NOTES

CHRONICLES OF SECONDARY SCHOOL



FOREWORD

by Ms Akila Srinivas, Principal, Secondary School

Greetings and welcome to what continues to be a wonderful year!

Exciting to connect back with you all to share the numerous happenings that kept us on our toes in the last few months. Festivities, celebrations, competitions, exams, parent-teacher meetings, the rain havoc and several other events kept us thinking of every situation as an opportunity to maximize student engagement and learning! Looking back, we are delighted that the last few months have been eventful to allow memories from this period to be carried forward for all of us! For you all to be a part of this, we have shared snippets of those eventful happenings. Urge you to strike a conversation with your wards about these experiences to enjoy and appreciate our joyous moments so far in this year.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year from the secondary team @ AAIS !!

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Student musings



Christmas Vibes

“Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love!” — Hamilton Wright Mabie

After a year of online celebrations, our corridors are finally filled with holiday cheer echoing the Christmas jingles. Celebrations began as members of the music club enthralled the audience with heart warming carols and the little ones danced to the songs and the beats. Fun and joy was in the air and students and teachers alike delighted in the occasion.

Making the most of this season, we also had all our teachers and high school students tuned in to surprise their children with interesting tasks and gifts. Faculty, students and staff participated happily and enthusiastically, setting in the joyful spirit of camaraderie and fellowship.

WHAT'S BUZZING?

Gearing up for the International Theme Day:

“A sense of curiosity is nature’s original school of education.” — Smiley Blanton

As we celebrate the 10th year of AAIS in all its glory, our learners have teamed up to probe & explore “The Whole New World” in their unique ways. The excitement is running all through the academic year in various interesting modes and forms.

School reopens post Covid lockdown for grades 6, 7 & 8:

School bells are ringing loud and clear; confinement is over, school is here.” — (modified) Winifred C. Marshal

Our middle school learners are back to school this term. We find our school corridors bustling with energy and excitement. It has been 18 months since our corridors were filled with such enthusiasm. Warm greetings were exchanged marking the beginning of the joy of learning together.

In all these months, students have been showing consistently just how much they want to keep learning. They persisted with their lessons under difficult circumstances, with the support of their teachers and parents. Now when it comes to returning to school, students have come back with a plethora of thoughts and feelings.

ACADEMIA

LITERARY INSPIRATION:

When the love for literature finds its home, we get to witness the making of aspiring writers like our student, Aishwarya of Grade 11.

Aishwarya discovered this passion during the lockdown. She found solace in writing poems to express her emotions and started writing poems more often. Though a beginner, Aishwarya relishes the joy of expressing through rhyme and rhythm.

Her poem was published by the Publishing House Write Order in an anthology called Butterflies.

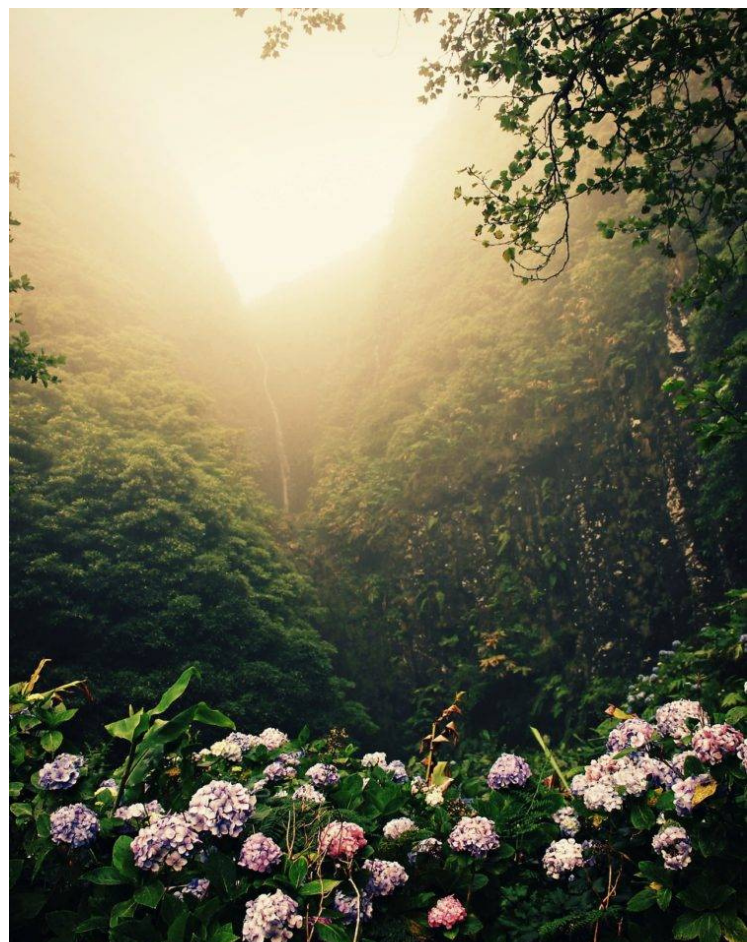
In the poet's own words :

I've always loved reading books and I feel proud in admitting that books are my best friends.

'Nature' was the poem that I wrote, when the creative juices started to flow inside me for the very first time. I believe that there is much more to nature than just birds and animals. After writing this poem, I realised my capability to carve creative sentences and make sense out of them. Moreover, when I got it published in a poem anthology, I was overwhelmed with joy and I felt the urge to write more."

Nature

*Nature knows about the future,
And about every single creature,
She protects every single soul,
Even in the north and the south pole,
Nature is magic,
But some people don't understand this
simple logic, So they destroy it and
leave it in a chaotic state. Is this
nature's fate?
We all take her for granted,
But she never asked for what she
wanted. So for this, we salute you,
And for everything you do we thank
you.*



ACADEMIA

MATH WORKSHOP BY MS. VIDHYA GOVINDAN

This term we had Ms Vidhya Govindan, a parent of AAIS conduct a Math Workshop for our middle school students. The workshop was based on Algebra under the name STEPS (Systematic Thinking Exploring and Problem Solving).

Ms.Vidhya Govindan, is the Educator and Founder at The Growing Young Mathematicians (GYM) Foundation.

This workshop helped to cultivate independent Mathematical thinking to solve problems with confidence and a systematic approach. It provided tools to foster problem solving and exploration in Mathematics.



MINDSPARK

All the middle school students at AAIS participate on the Mindspark platform. Educative Initiative Mindspark Math is a personalized learning software that helps children to improve their Math skills. Mindspark allows children to effectively advance at their own pace and adapt their individual learning styles.

Mindspark also provides instant and detailed feedback based on student response.

Every month Certificates are distributed to the students who got the highest Sparkies

Our Mindspark Sparkies

- ***Shubhank Gr 7B has been awarded the highest sparkies for 3 Consecutive Months.***
- ***Samiksha Gr 6 A has been awarded the second place in Tamil Nadu for the month of November***
- ***Aravind Gr 6 A has been awarded the Second World Rank between the dates December 13th -19th.***

ACADEMIA

ASSET

ASSET (Assessment of Scholastic Skills through Educational Testing) is a scientifically designed skill-based assessment, designed by Educational Initiatives, a group founded by IIM(A) alumni. This test focuses on measuring how well SKILLS and CONCEPTS have been understood by the student in each subject domain and provides information on the strengths and weaknesses of individual students.

At AAIS, the students of Grades 3 to 10 appeared for this test from December 13th to 15th in English, Maths and Science.

Once the results are declared, students who receive a 'distinction' or 'outstanding' look forward to a second round of tests which is a talent based examination –the ATS (Asset Talent Search) that gives them opportunities to take up programmes in different parts of the country.

PARENT ORIENTATION SESSIONS:



At AAIS, we strongly believe that parents play a pivotal role in the student's academic and all-round development. The school offers parent orientation sessions periodically to keep parents updated of the various aspects of the student's schooling.

In keeping with the practice, a synopsis of the AS/A Level and the IBDP programmes were provided to the parents of the grade 10 students, and the parents of the grade 8 students were briefed on the subjects available for the two years of the IGCSE. The orientation sessions were conducted in order to ensure that an informed choice can be made for the learners in the paths that they take up further in their academic journeys at AAIS.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

RENDEZVOUS SERIES

In another event hosted online by Akshar Arbol International School, students anchored an occasion conducted under SPIC MACAY where Vidwan Shri Sashank Subramanyam rendered a flute recital and enthralled the audience. This was followed by an interaction with the Vidwan.

Vidwan Shri Sashank Subramayam is a Grammy nominated renowned exponent of Bamboo flute from India and a recipient of the Sangeet Natak Akademi's award. He is a recipient of the Sangeet Natak Akademi's senior award by Govt. of India bestowed by the Hon. President of India for the year 2017 at an investiture ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. He was a child prodigy and began performing from the age of 6 in 1984 and has performed for over three decades.

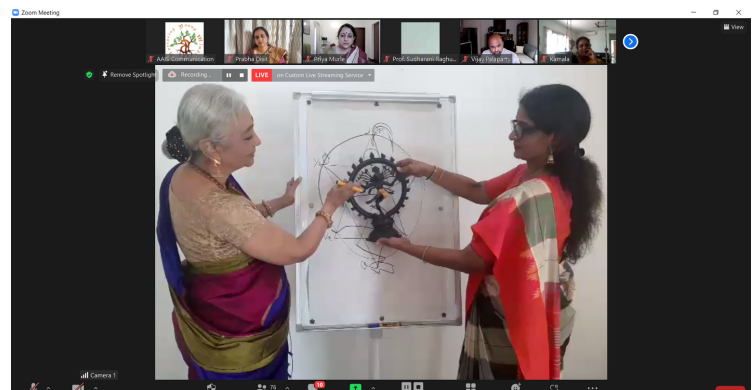


BY THE TEACHERS, OF THE TEACHERS, FOR THE TEACHERS:

To teach is to learn twice over. – Joseph Joubert

The most awaited time of the year for every teacher in the school, the Teacher's Day was made more special this time with the Guest session of Ms. Sudharani Raghupathy. She beautifully narrated how a teacher's love for learning is never-ending. We got to witness a specially recorded performance from her. Her grace and positivity radiated through the screens bringing smiles to all the viewers and admirers of the maestro.

[Click here to watch the session](#)



STUDENT'S LENS

Every year at Akshar Arbol, we as students take a day to thank the teachers for their year long efforts in nourishing us as individuals and preparing us for the world ahead. This year, with a twist to the teachers day celebration at AAIS, a platform was provided for the teachers to exhibit their talents.

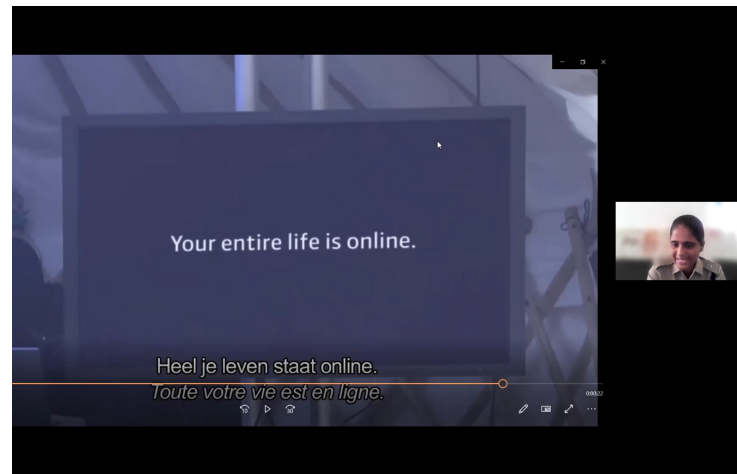
- Ayush Samuel Kumar - IBDP2

ALL ABOUT CHILD SAFETY - A CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE INITIATIVE(CPC)

*“Children are our most valuable resource.”
— Herbert Hoover, 31st President of the
United States.*

We at AAIS have always practiced and preached about being proactive with the holistic development of the learner. As the outside world locked down due to the pandemic, all of us got locked into the cyber world for almost everything from work to recreation. For our learners, the virtual world became their school, mall, theatre, and everything under one box. However, with great opportunities and possibilities in cyberspace, also comes great threats to safety.

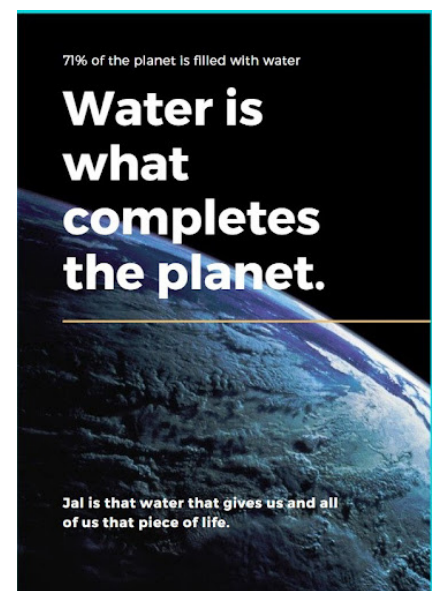
These recognitions and the Government mandates on the issue of Child safety gave rise to a series of workshops in the school this term focusing on Child safety at different stages of their development. Ms. Lavanya, ACP of the Department of Crime against Women and Children was invited to educate our high school students on cyber safety. She shared proactive measures with contextual references from her immense experience in the field. These were helpful for each and everyone present in the audience to look at the bigger picture of consequences that could aid in making informed decisions on cyberspace.



THIRAN - THE TRIUMPH OVER CHALLENGES

A Rollercoaster of uncertainties and challenges made the Thiran this year even more memorable. Thiran, our intra-school cultural event provides a multifaceted platform for the students to exhibit their skills and talents. Members of the in-school houses Jal and Agni competed enthusiastically in all the events conducted and brought laurels to their respective groups.

Below are the two posters made by our Students for the poster making contest. They represent the Agni & Jal house highlighting their essence and significance respectively.

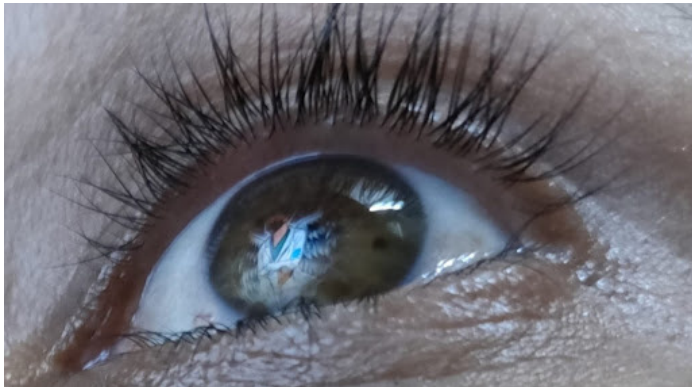


Thiran 2021

A WHOLE NEW WORLD
A WHOLE NEW YEAR
A WHOLE NEW THIRAN
A WHOLE NEW AGNI

Hansini Krishna_Grade 8_TSS

Followed by some photographs that were shot keeping in mind the Photography contest on the theme 'A Whole New World'.



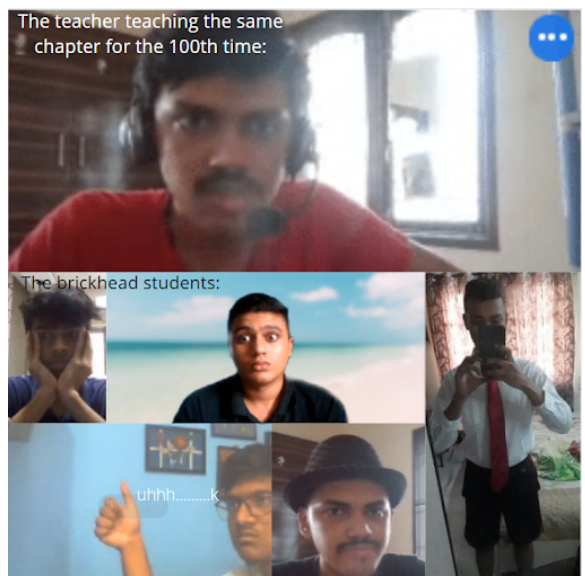
To add to the variety and with the intention of adding in some more of the fun element, here are a few snaps of the Meme making contest...



Chennai floods be like:



Book your tickets right now from Besant Nagar to ECR.

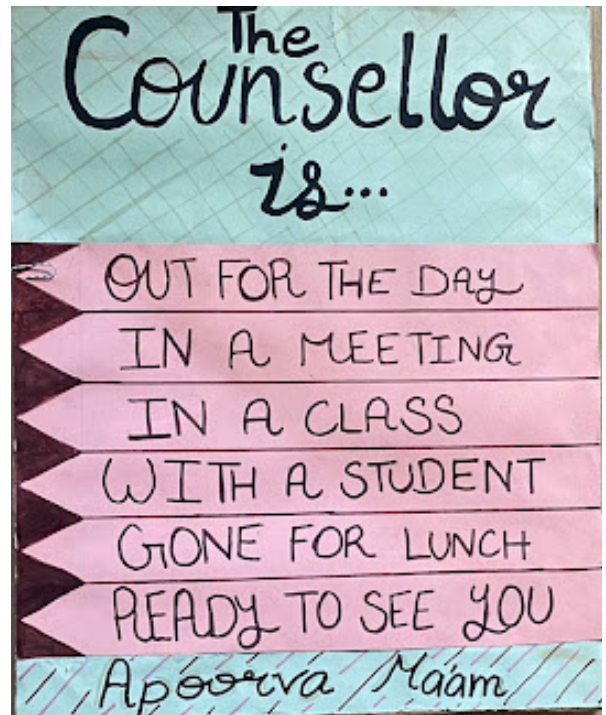
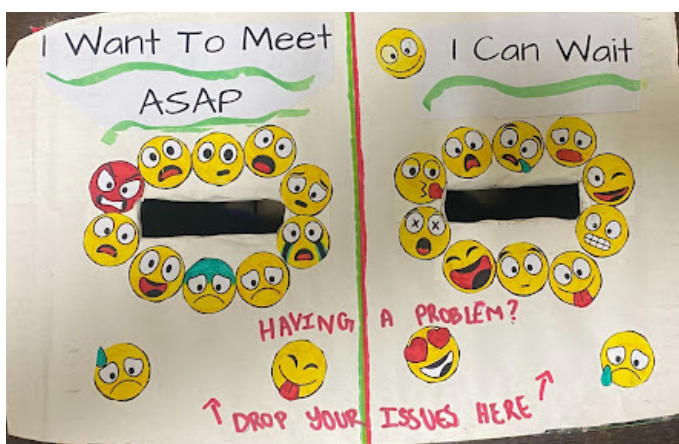
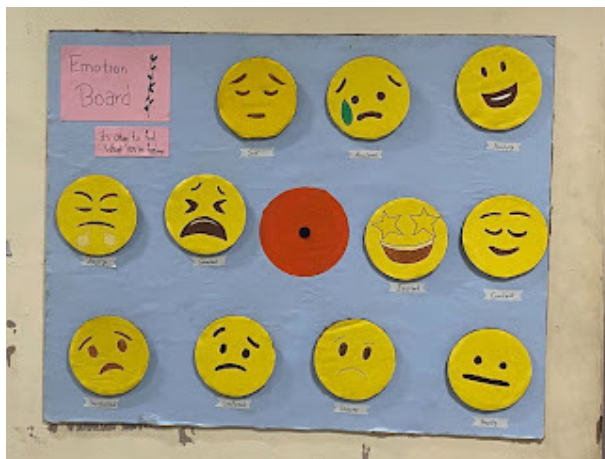


SERVICE INITIATIVE

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world” – Nelson Mandela

We aim at inducing social responsibility in our students throughout their learning journey at AAIS. Students have ample opportunities to explore and learn from these initiatives.

Students of grade 9 took up the task of revamping the sick room into the counselor's room as a COP project. The students worked on it for 11 hours. This included making mental health posters for the room, making an “Emotion Board”, a counselor sign board and much more. They also went to the higher classes and gave a briefing on mental health and counseling.



PANEL DISCUSSION - "RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS: ADDRESSING STUDENT AND TEACHER WELL BEING"- ORGANISED BY AADHAYAN

Our secondary school Principal Ms. Akila Srinivas and Shreya Lakshmi Kaundinya, an IBDP 2 student along with Dakshayini, a grade 8 student participated as key speakers in a Panel Discussion on "Reopening of schools: Addressing Student and Teacher well being".

The event was organised by Aadhayan and was conducted online for School leaders and teachers.

LAURELS

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS OLYMPIAD:

Big victories are smaller efforts with consistency.

Our learners of the Diploma Program have proved it yet again on a global stage.

Out of 16 countries , 26 teams and 129 competitors, 4 students of the IBDP program from our ECR campus participated in the International Business Olympiad, 2021, evaluated by a jury of eminent Economics & Business scholars. The Jury Committee consisted of experts in the Business field from prestigious universities like Harvard Business School and Imperial college Business school.

The participants took part in individual and group categories. In the individual category we had two students who secured first place and the 18th place globally. Akshar Arbol also bagged the second place for Case Analysis team activity on a Global scale.

Ayush expressed that his experience motivated him to learn more. It enabled him to go in depth and explore his favourite subject..



RISING MATHEMATICIAN OLYMPIAD

As our middle schoolers meet us back in the physical school, they have brought along a few laurels to share. Achyut Dinesh and Avyukt Dinesh from Grade 7 made it to the top 50 in the ROOTS 2021, The Rising Mathematician Olympiad conducted on October 31st 2021 .

The boys were among the top 50 to be selected for the free Math Camp with scholarship that was conducted by eminent professors in Math and Applied Science . They shared that it was a fun learning marathon for over 20 hours (11th November - 15th November 2021)

Achyut and Avyukt also participated in the PiVerb math Olympiad and came in 1st and 3rd respectively in 6th and 7th Category. The Olympiad was conducted in September 2021 This Olympiad had Non Routine Math problems and pan India. There were around 850 participants .



MPL REFLECTION

Shivani,
Grade 8
bagged the
Bronze medal

All the prep and the tests were taken through the countingwell app.

This experience was a wonderful one which helped me learn and realise a lot about the way my brain works, and how I approach questions. I was able to find out which method suited me the best, and which method challenged me the most. I worked on making the challenging method, one of my strengths.

This experience broadened my perspective in maths and made me more confident while tackling problems. This experience made my foundation in math stronger, allowing me to tackle harder topics with ease.

SNEAK PEEK

GEARING UP FOR THE BOARD EXAMINATIONS

With multiple revisions, gustling through past papers and revamping their progress, Our Grade 10 & 12 learners are all getting ready for one of the important milestones - The Boards

THE MOST AWAITED, SPORTS DAY

Enjoying PE in physical school has added more excitement to the upcoming sports day event which is being planned to be nothing less than a gala.

Looking out for Global collaboration across Grade 9 and 10 with subjects Spanish & Global Perspectives.

Connecting the dots between subjects has always been something we look forward to. This time it is Spanish & Global Perspectives. Our learners of Grades 9 & 10 are looking out for Global collaboration.

Stay tuned for next edition to know more.

Until then! We wish you a Merry Christmas and A Happy New year!