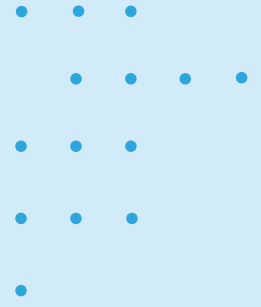
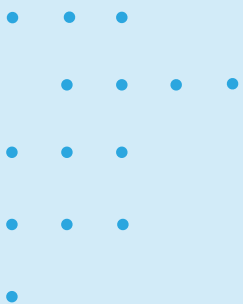


# **GARODIA GAZETTE**

VOLUME I  
JULY AUGUST 2024  
DIGEST ISSUE  
SLT INTERVIEW SPECIAL



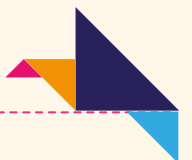
**Our vision at GICLM is to inspire young people in a nurturing and dynamic learning environment**





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# EDITORIAL

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

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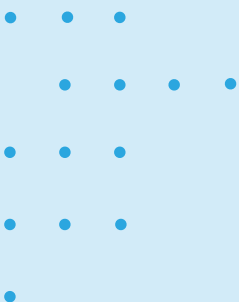
Life presents us with countless challenges, from academic pressures to personal struggles and beyond. Each of these moments test our strength and determination, but it's in facing these challenges that the ability to bounce back truly shines!

As Winston Churchill wisely said, "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts." These words remind us that resilience is the key to overcoming life's obstacles and achieving lasting success. In our daily lives, whether within the walls of GICLM or beyond, embracing resilience not only strengthens us as individuals, but also contributes to an environment where hope, determination, and mutual support thrive. No matter what challenges come our way, we have the power to face them, learn from them, and emerge stronger together.



At GICLM, 'resilience' isn't just about overcoming difficulties; it's about how we respond to them. It's the courage to rise after every fall. The first issue of Garodia Gazette captures the 'resilience' that shines through and the vibrant spirit of our community that defines our leadership, our students and our educators. The first edition brings together stories and reflections connected to this issue's theme: History & Freedom, and updates across three key sections: IBDP and Secondary, Primary, and GFW-EY, each highlighting how we continue to grow and thrive together.

**Harsh Agarwal, Keya Juthani**  
Grade 11



# THEME IN FOCUS:

## HISTORY AND FREEDOM

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This edition of our school magazine revolves around the theme of freedom, a tribute to the tireless efforts of those who made India's independence possible. The historic day of 15th August 1947 symbolized more than the end of colonial oppression; it heralded the birth of a new era and the fulfillment of a dream nurtured through generations of struggle and perseverance. Through this theme, we aim to reflect on the diverse meanings of freedom, as seen through the lens of various communities of India. Freedom was not merely political; it was personal. For some, it was the right to speak without fear, for others, the hope of equality, dignity, and respect. As we unfurl the tricolour today, we must remember that freedom is dynamic—it is a journey, a continuous process of learning and growth.

In this issue, we celebrate not only the known leaders of our independence but also the countless unsung heroes who sacrificed for the nation. Their legacy reminds us that freedom carries responsibilities. It is our duty to uphold the values they fought for and to keep the flame of independence burning for generations to come.

**Harsh Agarwal, Keya Juthani**  
Grade 11



# DIGEST SPECIAL: SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEWS

## SPOTLIGHT: MR. IAN DAVIES (HEAD OF SCHOOL)

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### 1. What inspired you to become a teacher?

Firstly, my teachers at school who said that I would be good working with people, Secondly, I did a lot of service work which inspired me. Thirdly, I wanted something that would enable me to continue pursuing my love of History and PE (my main subjects). At one time I wanted to be a lawyer. But, doing internships in schools made me realise that I like making a positive impact in a community which I love.

### 2. Can you share a time when a student or teacher inspired or taught you something valuable?

Perhaps my very first colleagues in my first school in Dorset, UK. I had a friend who read voraciously and I gained the habit of reading a lot of literature and discussing it with him. Later in life I see how that has definitely given me an edge over other people who do not read books. Why? Because I can draw on so many different ideas and examples to relate to real life. Even more, I even enjoy the challenge of tough interviews as I can find something sensible and hopefully, interesting to say. My other colleague inspired me to help run a trip to Russia whilst it was still communist. I have ever since had a passion for visiting countries that I teach about and learning the cultures and history therein. Live what you teach, basically and try to make learning come alive. So, surround yourself with interesting and bright people who you can learn from.



**Mr. Ian Davies**

Head of School

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### **3. How do you handle the pressure and responsibilities that come with the role of Principal?**

Firstly, I am so lucky to have met a great wife and have a family who look after me and accept that I am so passionate about what I do, even to the point that I am still taking a PhD now because I love learning. I just love seeing teachers that I have worked with gaining credibility and promotion and remember all the subtle but important ways in which I may have helped them. Even more, I do live my life somewhat through the wonderful students that I teach and learn so much from. Finally, genuinely have balance. I have always played a lot of sport and from an early age learned that Liverpool are the greatest football team on the planet. Go Reds!

### **4. What specific challenges have you faced in your role as Principal?**

I think challenges are what drives us on. I think one of the biggest challenges has been to keep focus everyone on the long term pathway for the school as we grow. To look ahead and establish what we need in the future and how to benefit students first of all. I am thrilled with how we have expanded our teaching staff, consistently bringing in bright and dynamic individuals who are deeply committed to both their students and the school community.

### **5. How do you evaluate this year's IGCSE and IBDP exam results in comparison to previous years?**

The results at GICLM have always been in my eyes outstanding. In fact, the results at IGCSE and IB have been better than the results achieved at the top international school that I worked for in Indonesia. But it is not perhaps the highest achievers academically that give me the most pride. It is working with every student so that they achieve their potential. We call that 'Value Added' and we are one of the best schools in doing this. Good students will always achieve high grades, even without the important input of their teacher. But, will they achieve their potential? Even more, will they be upstanding, genuine young men and women with humility and a concern for values and morals? That's the type of graduates that GICLM aspires to develop. Simply put they are young people whom I would be pleased to share a coffee and cake with over a long chat when they graduate in the future. That's when I know that I have done a good job.

### **6. What specific objectives do you have for the IBDP and IGCSE programs in the upcoming year?**

My objectives are always to review and be better. I would love to see the Student Voice evolve, with students taking a leading role in shaping the school's development and contributing valuable ideas for the future. While competition is important, I have come to value collaboration, attentive listening, and recognizing the strengths in others even more. These qualities have helped me grow and perform my role more effectively. I would love to see parents and families playing an even more positive role also.

**Prathyusha Kayarat, Harsh Bavishi**  
**Grade 11**

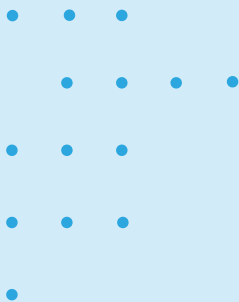
# DIGEST SPECIAL: SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEWS

SPOTLIGHT: MR. HUZEFA KAGALWALA (HEAD OF SECONDARY) 

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## Mr. Huzefa Kagalwala

Head of Secondary





# TEACHER'S CORNER

## HISTORY AND FREEDOM

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On the morning of August 15, 1947, India awoke to a new light. It was not just the sun rising but the dawn of freedom, the end of a long, dark night that had gripped the nation for almost 200 years. This freedom was not just a word; it was a living dream, it was a new heartbeat, a pulse that ran through the veins of every man, woman, and child who had struggled and fought for this dream.

India's struggle for independence was not only fought on battlefields or in leaders; speeches. It lived in the quiet strength of the farmer, in the determined steps of the women who marched, and in the bright eyes of children who imagined a life without chains. Freedom was their prayer, their dream, their song. **'Sarfarooshi ki tamanna ab hamare dil mein hai'**. (The desire for revolution now fills our hearts). These words were not just a call to arms; they were a whisper of hope, a promise that freedom was worth every sacrifice.

Freedom meant different things to different people. To some, it was the right to speak without fear; to others, it was the ability to worship freely. For the millions oppressed by caste, it was the hope of being seen as human. For women, it was the first breath of equality.

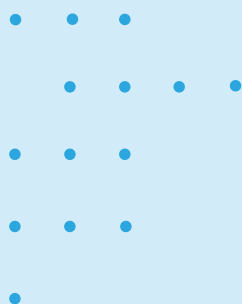
“At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom” said Jawaharlal Nehru, but that freedom was not just for a nation. It was for every soul who longed to live with dignity.

Every story of India's freedom is stitched together with threads of sacrifice. As we celebrate independence, we must remember that freedom is not an end but a beginning. “Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes” said Mahatma Gandhi. True freedom is found in our ability to grow, learn, stumble, and rise again, stronger each time.

As the flag unfurls this Independence Day, one should remember those who made it possible. Not just the famous heroes but the countless, nameless souls whose sacrifices are woven into the fabric of our freedom. We should honour their memory by carrying forward the light they ignited. **“Lab pe aati hai dua ban ke tamanna meri,.../Zindagi shama ki surat ho khudaya meri.”** (My wish rises to my lips like a prayer,/Let my life be like a candle, O God.) These words remind us that freedom is about rights and responsibilities. As we enjoy the fruits of independence, we should be the light that guides the way, keeping the flame of freedom alive for generations to come.

“True freedom is not just the absence of chains but the presence of wings.”

- Fareen Wahid



Ms. Fareen Qureshi  
GICLM, Humanities Faculty and Assistant IBDP Coordinator

# NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN

## Symmetry fun: 14<sup>th</sup> August 2024

In K1, the children enjoyed exploring the concept of symmetry through observing images of nature that displayed identical halves. This was done by identifying the line of symmetry by folding the pictures along the point where the two sides mirrored each other, turning learning into a playful, hands-on activity. Symmetry helps little learners understand balance, shapes, and patterns. It encourages critical thinking skills by engaging them in activities that require identifying symmetrical figures. Learning about symmetry lays the foundation for more advanced mathematical concepts in the future.

**Mithil Chandan**  
Grade 11



## Friendship day: 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2024

The children of K1 celebrated Friendship Day, learning more about the global significance of friendship, through exchanging cards and colourful wristbands. The celebration was further enriched after reading the story of 'Rainbow Fish', which teaches the joy of sharing and the value of friendship.

**Mithil Chandan**  
Grade 11



# NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN

## Mirror images: 13<sup>th</sup> August 2024

The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about mirror images through an interactive game. One child would mimic movements while the other acted as a mirror, and then they swapped roles to experience both perspectives. They learned the skill of teamwork through this activity. The mirror copies the leader's movements, and vice versa which was definitely empowering for cognitive activities in the Primary learning years.

**Mithil Chandan**  
Grade 11



## Joana the Ladybird: 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024

The learners had the pleasure of meeting their new friend Joana, '*a charming little ladybug*'! The students observed that Joana is a small, red ladybug with black spots on her back. They compared Joana to themselves, noting their differences—no black spots and only two legs compared to Joana's six legs. This role play activity enhanced retention by providing a visual and kinesthetic learning experience.

**Mithil Chandan**  
Grade 11

# PRIMARY

## Independence Day: 12<sup>th</sup> August 2024

The Primary Section at GICLM is a new experience for young learners as they are introduced to new subjects and topics allowing them to not only gain clarity of the world they inhabit but also meeting new people and making friends. They started off the year with an incredible show of talents and education with the dance competition and having many interactive and activity-filled classes. Parents' enthusiasm shone through their interaction with the faculty to discuss their children's achievements.



To celebrate India's freedom struggle, promote unity and to instill a feeling of patriotism, the young pupils participated in a captivating assembly. They performed patriotic songs and rendered dance and skits celebrating the glorious Indian Independence. The celebration was a true reflection of the progressive spirit at GICLM.

**Mithil Chandan**  
Grade 11

## Brainwave- First Academic Unit: July 2024

The students of primary grades embarked on an exciting journey through our new International Primary Curriculum unit- BRAINWAVE. To kick off the unit, they were engaged in stimulating activities, like Brain Yoga, Brain games, teaching & learning, etc. These activities are an essential workout for the brain. It enhances various cognitive functions such as memory, concentration, and logical thinking. By engaging students in these intriguing and challenging brain activities, the start of the academic exploration set the stage for a deeper understanding and development of cognitive functions and brain health throughout the unit as well as the year to unfold.

**Mithil Chandan**  
Grade 11



# SECONDARY AND IBDP

## Global University fair 2024: 8<sup>th</sup> August 2024

GICLM hosted an impactful university fair boasting more than 70 visiting university representatives. The fair served as a vital platform for students to explore a diverse range of universities and educational pursuits, helping them make informed decisions about their academic and vocational pathway. At the fair, representatives from various universities gathered to present information about their institutions, academic programs, and campus life. This personalized interaction allowed the students to ask questions and gain insights that are not always available through online research. By engaging with university representatives, the students learned about the unique programs, scholarship opportunities, and the overall culture of each institution.

**Prathyusha Kayarat, Harsh Bavishi**  
Grade 11



## TOK Exhibition: 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024

The Theory of Knowledge exhibition is an essential component of the IB Diploma Program. The school and learners are supposed to display their understanding and learning of the 35 assigned prompts in a formal Theory of Knowledge exhibition. The exhibition focused on exploring the ethics, influence, and significance of knowledge through diverse displays of beliefs and objects from around the world. The TOK exhibition plays an important role in the IBDP curriculum, and is one of the compulsory tasks in IB along with the essay for TOK that follows. Students of Grade 8 to 10 and IBDP Year 1, as well as parents of all IBDP 2 learners and the faculty at GICLM attended the exhibition. Students and their exhibitory works received critical acclaim from parents, students as well as teachers. Overall, the exhibition not only celebrated the students' hard work but also offered a valuable glimpse for new IBDP students into what TOK entails and what the IB expects in this unique component of the course. The event was engaging, eye-opening, and entertaining for all attendees, providing an enriching experience that encouraged deeper reflection on the role of knowledge in our lives.

**Varun Venkatesh**  
Grade 11

# SECONDARY AND IBDP



## CAS Camp: July 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The CAS camp offered students a well-rounded experience blending creativity, activity, and service. The camp kicked off with an energetic Zumba session, setting a lively tone, followed by icebreakers and team-building exercises that fostered camaraderie and collaboration. Students participated in a range of activities, including a morning trek at Sanjay Gandhi National Park, which gave them a chance to connect with nature and engage in physical activities.



A highlight of the camp was welcoming children from an NGO, organising interactive activities such as painting and games, fostering meaningful interactions. A cooking competition provided an opportunity for students to showcase their culinary talents and teamwork. The camp also included a calming yoga session and a creative bookmark-making activity, promoting mindfulness and artistic expression. Delicious meals were enjoyed throughout, and the day concluded with a vibrant DJ night and an enlightening Theory of Knowledge (TOK) session. Overall, the camp successfully integrated all aspects of CAS, leaving students with lasting memories and stronger friendships.



**Prathyusha Kayarat , Harsh Bavishi**  
Grade 11

# GARODIA SNIPPETS

## Parent's Reflection



**Mrs. Mahek Gursingh**

Mrs. Mahek Gursingh, a proud parent of this school, chose Garodia International Centre for Learning Mumbai (GICLM) based on the strong recommendations she received from her community. She was particularly impressed by the school's robust extracurricular programs and the personalised attention facilitated by smaller class sizes. Mrs. Gursingh holds the school's infrastructure in high regard, particularly lauding the Multipurpose Hall (MFH), which also serves as a basketball court. She also values the convenience of the on-campus café, which serves as a reliable backup for students who may forget their lunch.

**Riyansha Koradia**  
Grade 11

## Student Achievement

On August 8<sup>th</sup>, the prestigious Shri Mukesh Patel Auditorium reverberated with evocative rendering of patriotic songs as Aarush Shah took the stage at the finals of J.V. Parekh Sanskritik Sangam's solo instrumental competition, Vadya Jhankar. Aarush, a Grade 12 student, delivered a mesmerising and powerful musical tribute to our nation's spirit.

For his outstanding performance, Aarush was awarded a well-deserved 1st prize in his category, cementing his place as a young musician to watch. His achievement is a testament to his talent, dedication, and the inspiring power of music to unite and uplift.

**Riyansha Koradia**  
Grade 11



**Aarush Shah**  
Grade 12

## Credits

**Editors** - Harsh Agarwal (11A), Keya Juthani (11A)

**Design Team** - Prisha Gursingh (11A), Afsha Sheikh (11A), Jayaditiya Lodaya (12)

**Primary and GFW-EY** - Mithil Chandan (11A)

**Secondary and IB** - Prathyusha Kayarat (11A), Harsh Bavishi (11B), Varun Venkatesh (11A), Shreya Singh (10), Niharika Shah (10), Shraddha Anand (10)

**Digest Special Interviews** - Prathyusha Kayarat (11A), Harsh Bavishi (11B)

**Parent Reflection** - Riyansha Koradia (11B)

**Student Achievement** - Riyansha Koradia (11B)



# Engaging Minds, Changing Futures

At GICLM, we believe that education is all about the possibilities of curiosity, learning, discovery and achievement.

Join us to create  
endless possibilities  
for your child's education



Garodia International Centre for Learning Mumbai  
Plot No. 55 , 90 Feet Road, Ghatkopar (East).  
Mumbai - 400077.