# GARODIA GAZETTE





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

Culture plays a vital role in shaping perspectives and connecting us with the world. At GICLM, we celebrate diversity through language courses such as Spanish, Hindi, Marathi, French, German, and Mandarin. These classes immerse students in the traditions, histories, and customs of the cultures they represent, fostering an appreciation for different perspectives. Events like European Language Day further enhance this experience through interactive sessions, promoting both cultural awareness and linguistic skills.

As a German Language B student, I've gained a deeper understanding of the language and culture, broadening my horizons. This edition of the Garodia Gazette showcases how we embrace and learn from the world's rich cultural tapestry.





Learning languages is essential for understanding and appreciating diverse cultures. Each language—be it Spanish, Mandarin, French, German, or Hindi—opens doors to new perspectives and traditions. At GICLM, we support language learning as part of our educational mission, offering opportunities to practice with native speakers and participate in exchange programs. By fostering internationalmindedness, we empower students to become global citizens. By embracing linguistic diversity, we cultivate empathy and mutual respect among students. This not only enhances communication skills but also prepares us to thrive in a globalized world.

Kashti Dedhia, Annika Shenoy

**Grade 11A** 



#### THEME IN FOCUS:

#### FOSTERING CULTURAL APPRECIATION AND UNITY

Festivals celebrated in schools, such as Navratri, Holi, Diwali, and European Languages Day, are important not just for fun but for fostering an appreciation of different cultures. These events help students connect with traditions from around the world, highlighting the significance of diversity in our community. Navratri, with its energetic Garba and Dandiya dances, brings students together to honor the spirit of devotion and cultural pride. Holi, known as the festival of colors, allows students to participate in joyful activities that symbolize harmony and the victory of good over evil. Diwali, the festival of lights, teaches the importance of light triumphing over darkness, with schools often being beautifully decorated with lamps and rangoli.

European Languages Day is another important celebration, promoting the beauty of linguistic diversity and encouraging students to appreciate the many languages spoken across Europe. By exploring these festivals, students gain a broader understanding of different cultures and the values they represent. These celebrations are more than just events—they promote unity, understanding, and respect for global traditions, helping students become more open-minded and culturally aware. Through festivals, schools create an inclusive environment that celebrates the richness of the world's cultural heritage.

Kashti Dedhia, Annika Shenoy Grade 11 A

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#### **DIGEST SPECIAL: SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEWS**

SPOTLIGHT: MS. MAHALAKSHMI ANAND (HEAD OF PRIMARY)

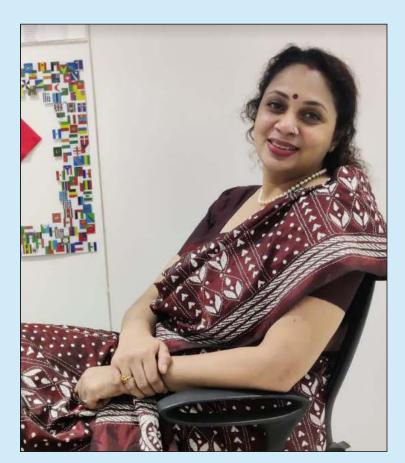
1. How do you ensure that students develop both academically and emotionally during their primary years?

I believe that Primary School years are crucial for character building. My dedicated team of teachers crafts engaging lessons that encourage students to think critically and express themselves clearly. Pastoral care and student well-being are central to our approach, with every teacher committed to nurturing and mentoring students. We have a buddy program for new students and parents, fostering community connections. During Coffee Meets, parents can share feedback while I outline our vision for the future.

2. How do you measure the success of academic programs, and how is feedback incorporated into improvements?

We adopt a multifaceted approach that ensures students receive ongoing support and encouragement for their academic growth and development.

- 1. Regular Assessments: We use formative assessments and tests to evaluate understanding.
- 2. **Progress Monitoring:** Learning management systems allow us to track student performance over time.



Ms. Mahalakshmi Anand Head of Primary

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- 3. **Feedback Loops:** Constructive feedback specific, actionable and timely, is provided regularly, focusing on strengths and areas for improvement. Examples: rubrics, checklists, mark schemes are shared from time to time so students have a greater sense of clarity for every task.
- 4. **Conferences and Reports:** Parent-teacher conferences and progress reports enhance communication about student progress.
- 5. **Peer Feedback:** Students give and receive feedback from classmates, fostering collaboration.
- 6. **Goal Setting:** Students set personal academic goals, encouraging ownership of their learning journey.

Academic programs are evaluated twice during the year. The efficacy and relevance are evaluated with the whole school initiatives in different areas like literacy, numeracy, scientific inquiry, student well-being, etc.

## 3. What are your guiding principles for classroom management and discipline while maintaining a positive learning environment?

Our educational approach emphasizes collaboration, student leadership, and innovation through flexible classroom setups that allow seamless transitions between group work, paired activities, and independent tasks. Clear expectations are established at the year's start and consistently reinforced, creating a supportive and disciplined learning environment. Students develop critical support skills as "critical buddies," while roles like house captains empower them to voice ideas in a safe space. To motivate beyond academics, we use positive reinforcement strategies—such as stars, rewards, and assembly recognition—to celebrate achievements and encourage personal growth, fostering a vibrant and inclusive learning community.

#### 4. Can you describe your leadership style and how it has evolved over time?

Leadership is not a crown to wear but a role to play with care. It's vital that every team member understands and embraces the school's vision, feeling valued and supported in their efforts. When communities believe in this vision, they become an extension of it. My leadership journey began as a teacher, guiding peers through our school's ethos, and evolved into a participative and transformational style. Today, I take pride in seeing many of the teachers I've mentored excel globally and step into leadership roles themselves.

Kashti Dedhia, Annika Shenoy Grade 11A

### **DIGEST SPECIAL: SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEWS**

SPOTLIGHT: MS. PRIYANKA MALIGAIL (DEPUTY HEAD OF PRIMARY) ——

## Ms. Priyanka Maligail

**Deputy Head of Primary** 

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#### **TEACHER'S CORNER**

#### **EMBRACING THE SPIRIT OF NAVRATRI!**



The realization that the festive season has officially started struck me at the dawn of 'Ghatasthapana', an auspicious custom carried out on the first day of Navratri with the placing of the 'Kalash' or the 'Sacred Pot' representing prosperity and divine energy. With the official ushering of the Navratri festivities, it felt like the universe was getting ready to celebrate with a certain sense of expectancy in the air.

With its sudden burst of warmth, October always feels unique. The joyful streets, the glow of lamps in homes, the rhythm of Dandiya and Garba dance. The month is full of get-together, laughter, and enjoyable time with loved ones at home, in school, in the streets, everywhere. Navratri has profound cultural and spiritual meaning.

It is a nine-night celebration that honors the holy feminine spirit, especially the goddess Durga with her daily forms, each of whom stands for a different attribute like power, courage, or wisdom. With the final day of Navratri, Dussehra, symbolizing Lord Rama's victory over the demon king Ravana, the festival represents the victory of good over evil.

Nonetheless, it is not just the celebrations that get us excited. It's the deeper significance of it all, serving as a reminder that there is always light at the end of the darkest tunnel. One is filled with hope and a sense of renewal as one begins this season embracing all of the good that comes with it. This month more than any other seems to be a celebration of perseverance, life, and connections.



Ms. Uma lyer GICLM, German Language Facilitator

#### NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN

## Nursery: Animal Town: A World Built by Little Architects: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Our young builders recently embarked on an exciting journey to create their very own Animal Town, using Legos and foam blocks as their tools. With creativity flowing, they constructed various structures, including houses, schools, and hospitals, to make their town complete. Each building served a special purpose, from homes for their animal residents to hospitals where animal doctors helped those in need. The children assigned roles to the animals—doctors, teachers, and even firefighters—bringing their imaginative town to life with vibrant stories and scenarios. Through this hands-on project, they not only built a town but also developed essential skills like teamwork, problem-solving, and storytelling. Animal Town was truly a place where learning and imagination thrived!

## Arhata Kanhekar, Arakshitha Viswanath Grade 11A





## Nursery: Exploring the World of Shopping through Play: October 2024

In the exciting "Marketplace" play-based activity, our young learners dove into the world of shopping by role-playing as shopkeepers and customers using imaginary money. This hands-on activity sparked creativity and helped children understand commerce, building early financial literacy. They practiced social skills, such as communication and negotiation, as they set prices and made thoughtful purchasing decisions.

During circle time, the students reflected on their shopping experiences, sharing what they bought and how they paid for it, linking their learning to real-world scenarios. To extend the experience beyond the classroom, the children were given a shopping list task to complete with their parents, bringing the concepts of decision-making and budgeting into their daily lives.

#### **NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN**

This immersive activity not only encouraged teamwork, communication, and problem-solving but also seamlessly blended creativity with practical life skills, making learning both fun and meaningful.

Arhata Kanhekar, Arakshitha Viswanath Grade 11A







#### K1's Creative Storytelling Adventure: October 2024

The K1 class had an exciting creative session inspired by a special guest, Isabel. The children explored the letters in her name, focusing on vowels, and from there, the class worked together to craft their own adventure story about Isabel. Using their imaginations, they built a narrative about Isabel's journey up a hill, discovering new places along the way.

The students illustrated their favorite parts of the story, developing skills in creativity, collaboration, and language. Their vibrant artwork brought the adventure to life, showcasing their personal interpretations of the tale and enhancing their storytelling abilities.

## Arhata Kanhekar, Arakshitha Viswanath Grade 11A





#### PRIMARY

#### Exploring 3D Shapes with Clay and Toothpicks: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

In our recent maths lesson, Grade 1A students had an exciting hands-on activity where they explored the world of 3D shapes! The children used toothpicks and clay to construct various three-dimensional objects, such as cubes, square-based pyramids, and tetrahedrons. Through this fun-filled activity, they learned about important geometric concepts like faces, edges, and vertices.

The lesson began with a discussion about the differences between 2D and 3D shapes. Eager to apply this knowledge, students rolled clay into little balls and connected them with toothpicks to create these 3D forms. Not only did they count the faces, edges, and corners of their shapes, but they also started experimenting by adding extra features to their cubes, turning them into imaginative structures.

The children developed their spatial reasoning skills, learned new vocabulary, and most importantly, had lots of fun while learning geometry. It was a day full of creativity and exploration.

Ratisha Khare, Naman Barola Grade 11B





#### Singalong: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024

This year, our school celebrated its much-anticipated annual Singalong Event, uniting students from nursery to grade 5 in a joyful musical showcase. For weeks leading up to the event, students participated in enthusiastic rehearsals, where they practised a diverse repertoire of songs, ranging from traditional nursery rhymes to contemporary hits. The teachers played a pivotal role in guiding students, ensuring they felt confident and excited about their performances.

On the day of the Singalong, the auditorium was filled with an eager audience of parents, teachers, and fellow students. Each grade showcased its unique selections, with nursery students charming everyone with their innocent renditions of beloved songs. Similarly, the older students impressed everyone with their talent and dedication.

#### **PRIMARY**

The Singalong Event was more than just a performance; it fostered a sense of community and encouraged creativity among students. It provided a platform for children to express themselves, build confidence, and form long lasting friendships. The event also reinforced the school's commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals through the arts.

#### Ratisha Khare, Naman Barola Grade 11B





#### Brainwave Exit Point Showcase: 16th October 2024

Brainwave Exit Point is a celebration of students' achievements. The activities empower students to take ownership of their learning. The Primary school hosted a Brainwave Exit Point activity, inviting teachers and parents to witness the culmination of the children's inquiry-based learning journey. The event demonstrated students' critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration.

The exit point was a student-led presentation and successfully showcased students' innovation and creativity fostering a sense of community and pride among parents, teachers, and students.

#### Ratisha Khare, Naman Barola Grade 11B





#### SECONDARY AND IBDP

#### European Languages Day Assembly: 24th September 2024

On 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024, the secondary students of Garodia International School (GICLM) conducted an assembly focused on various European languages, celebrating the diversity and uniqueness of cultures around the world. The languages were French, Spanish, and German as these are the foreign languages taught at GICLM. The students conducted quizzes, skits, and small snippets of information sessions to engage the audience and help them understand and learn several facts about the European languages and their country.

Students participated in various performances and activities to entertain the audience and make the assembly more vibrant. They began by sharing interesting facts about each country, including Spain, Germany, and France. To end the assembly, they performed a humorous skit which included the different personalities, tastes and accents of people from these countries and a short quiz to enlighten the audience with facts about the European languages and cultures.

## Ratisha Khare Grade 11B







#### The Unsong Experience: 17th October 2024

For our recent IGCSE World Literature project, students brought poetry to life through an innovative sing-along activity - 'The Unsong Experience'. Parents and students were invited to witness the blend of music and depth from literature. Rather than analyzing traditional poems, we chose songs with meaningful lyrics. Students selected songs and sang together in groups, using the musical experience as a gateway to deeper literary analysis. Through the lyrics, we explored themes like love, friendship, happiness and social issues while identifying poetic devices such as the different figures of speech. The sing-along not only made the learning process fun but also encouraged students to see modern music as a form of contemporary poetry. By merging creativity with critical thinking, the activity helped students connect more personally with the texts while developing a love for both music and literature. The event was an absolute success and a refreshing way of analyzing the task while getting a deeper understanding of the expectations rather than rote learning.

Barbie Vora Grade 9A

## **SECONDARY AND IBDP**









#### **Parent interview**

## 1. How has GICLM school supported your child's academic growth and development?

GICLM has always empathized with each child as every child is different. My kids have received expert guidance from experienced teachers and mentors. GICLM has evolved with the best methods for the benefit of the children.

## 2. Can you share specific programs or resources at GICLM that have positively impacted your child's learning experience?

Specific programs like Raz-Kids in primary and MUN, G20, etc. in Secondary are playing a major role in exposing them to different areas of personal development. These initiatives, along with interschool competitions and activities, provide valuable exposure and growth opportunities.



Parent of Niharika Shah (Grade 10) & Prisca Shah (Grade 6)

#### 3. In what ways has the school fostered a sense of community and belonging for your children?

Community and belonging to children come with the love and affection they get from their surroundings. Teachers and helping staff are very mindful and caring for the kids at GICLM.

## 4. How does GICLM encourage parent involvement, and how has that shaped your family's experience at the school?

GICLM has played a good role by conducting different educational workshops for parents, quizzes to take part involving parents on sports days, and celebrating festivals like Navratri.



#### Navratri Dhamaka: 9th October 2024

Under twinkling fairy lights, this year's School Garba Night was magical! Students, teachers, and parents came together to celebrate Navratri with high spirits, music, and dance on October 9th in the school courtyard.

The beats of Navratri tracks filled the air as everyone, dressed in vibrant chaniya cholis and kediyas, danced in intricate circles. The highlight was the dandiya segment, where sticks clicked in perfect harmony.

A costume contest, food stalls, and shared joy made the evening unforgettable. The night ended with smiles, proving that no celebration is complete without music, dance, and togetherness!

Harsh Agarwal Grade 11A













#### Diwali Fair: 19th October 2024

Our school celebrated Diwali with an exciting and vibrant fair that brought together students, families, and the community. The event, held on campus, was bustling with activity, laughter, and fun-filled moments. One of the main attractions of the fair was the variety of game stalls hosted by students. As part of the school initiative, students were encouraged to set up their own game stalls. From classic ring tosses to creative challenges like unscrambling cards, each game was designed to engage the crowds. Students worked hard to design and run their own game stalls. In addition to the student-run stalls, outsiders were invited to set up their own stall as well, selling everything from delicious food to festive products. There was a wide variety of snacks, sweets, and unique Diwali-themed items, which attracted families and guests. The fair was attended by a large number of people—more than we expected!

Naman Barola Grade 11B







## Garodia International Triumphs at Interschool Basketball Tournament: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Garodia International Centre for Learning achieved remarkable success at the recent interschool basketball tournament, with all teams demonstrating extraordinary skill and teamwork. The Boys Under-15 and Girls Under-15 teams secured the silver medals in their respective categories, a testament to their tactical prowess and dedication. Their journey, though, falling just short of victory, showcased immense potential and sportsmanship.

The Boys Under-18 team delivered a commanding performance, clinching first place. Their seamless coordination and strategic brilliance led them to an emphatic win, bringing pride and honor to the school.

These achievements reflect not only the athletes' hard work but also Garodia's commitment to fostering excellence both in academics and sports. The triumphs underscore the school's holistic approach, where values such as perseverance, discipline, and teamwork are nurtured alongside intellectual growth.

Shriyans Mondal Grade 9A









#### VIBE 3.0: Sports and Arts Competition: 10th-11th October, 2024

Students from grades 8 to 12 participated in VIBE 3.0, an exciting inter-school event organized by NEXT School in Mulund. The trivia and basketball teams performed impressively, earning 2nd place in both competitions, demonstrating teamwork and sportsmanship. In addition to these achievements, students also took part in solo singing and football. The two solo singers advanced to the second round, which took place at Kalidas Auditorium. VIBE 3.0 provided a valuable opportunity for students to display their diverse talents, connect with peers from other schools, and gain real-world experience in a fun and challenging environment. We are deeply grateful to all the students for their dedication and enthusiasm, making the school proud.

Shraddha Anand Grade 10

#### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## My Experience at the German PASCH Camp in Sri Lanka: 23<sup>rd</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

I had the incredible opportunity to attend the PASCH camp organized by the Goethe Institut in Sri Lanka. This camp brought together around **70 students from various South Asian** countries like Pakistan, Nepal, and Bangladesh, all united by our shared interest in learning German.

The main focus of the camp was a project called **Dreamland Deutschland**. It is based on a comic book that explores the experience of **studying and living in Germany**, offering us a creative way to understand the culture and language better. Throughout the camp, we participated in **several workshops** that encouraged us to dive into this theme. One of the highlights was creating our own short **comic strip**, which allowed us to express ourselves through creativity and emotions.

Beyond the workshops, we also had the chance to **explore the vibrant city of Colombo** during a one-day excursion. We visited temples, museums, and other cultural landmarks, which gave us an even deeper appreciation of the local culture while bonding with new friends from different countries.

Overall, this camp was an enriching experience that helped me **improve my German skills**, as I learned new words, phrases, and cultural insights. More than that, it was a chance to meet students from different backgrounds and cultures, making it a truly unique learning experience.

Kashti Dedhia Grade 11A





#### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

#### German Camp in Lonavala: 4th- 6th October 2024

Recently, I had the incredible opportunity to attend a German camp organized by the Goethe-Institut in Lonavala, along with Shirin, Amartya, Shaurya, Hriday, Anay, and Raj. Over the course of three days, we immersed ourselves in the enchanting world of fairytales (Märchen). We analyzed their structures and patterns, ultimately crafting our own modern tales entirely in German.

Our weekend was packed with fun activities that included treasure hunts, DJ nights, and even an ukulele learning session. The camp was a melting pot of cultures as we interacted with students from Mumbai and Chennai, representing schools like Bombay International and JBCN.

This experience not only enriched our German language skills but also allowed us to forge lasting friendships while having a blast. The blend of learning and leisure made it an unforgettable adventure!

Shreya Singh Grade 10





#### **Credits**

Editors - Kashti Dedhia (11A), Annika Shenoy (11A)

Design Team (Cover Page) - Shreya Singh (10)

**Primary and GFW-EY** - Arhata Kanhekar (11A), Arakshitha Viswanath (11A), Ratisha Khare (11B), Naman Barola (11B)

Secondary and IB - Maahi Bhanushali (11A), Barbie Vora Grade (9A), Annika Shenoy (11A)

Digest Special Interviews - Kashti Dedhia (11A), Annika Shenoy (11A)

**Garodia Snippets** - Janak Sanghani (11A), Harsh Agarwal (11A), Naman Barola (11B), Shriyans Mondal (9B)

Student Achievements - Kashti Dedhia (11A), Shreya Singh (10)



## **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



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