



# *The Shepherd's* Monthly Newsletter *Voice*



## GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Good Shepherd Knowledge Village  
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## Virtual Founder's Day Celebrations



*Address by the Chief Guest of the event, Shri Justice (Retd.) P Sathasivam*

The students and staff of Good Shepherd International School celebrated the **44th Founder's Day** on Thursday, 15 October 2020. The virtual celebrations were organized in compliance with the health and safety recommendations associated with the COVID - 19 pandemic.

The programme started with a prayer offered by **Master Shauryaveer Malik** of Grade 9. The Middle School Choir sang the school song, 'Hail Good Shepherd Our Alma Mater...' and the school prayer song, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, I'll not want...' **Ms Aditi Bishakha Das**, Grade 7, said the school prayer. A homage was then paid to the Founder-Principal Late **Dr P C Thomas**, in the form of a video presentation highlighting his

life and achievements. In his address, the President of GSIS, **Mr Jacob Thomas** stated that his father, Dr Thomas was a man determined to make a mark in everything he set up to do and his most noteworthy achievement is Good Shepherd International School. The Chamber orchestra of GSIS then played the theme song from the Marvel Studios film *Ant-Man* which was originally composed by *Christophe Beck*. The Middle School Choir then sang 'Let It Be', a song by the English rock band, the *Beatles*, written and sung by *Paul McCartney*, and credited to the Lennon-McCartney partnership. The Principal, **Mrs Sheila Alexander** delivered the welcome address. "With great humility, we, as a school community will continue creating global citizens for a changing world," she said. The Chairman of the Board of Governors of GSIS, **Mr V Selvaraj, IAS (Retd.)**, recollected his long association with the school and with Dr Thomas.



Prayer offered by Master Shauryaveer Malik of Grade 9



The Middle School Choir singing school song and school prayer song



Address by the President of GSIS, Mr Jacob Thomas



The Chamber orchestra of GSIS playing the theme song from the Marvel Studios film 'Ant-Man'



Prayer by Ms Aditi Bishakha Das, Grade 7



Homage to Dr P C Thomas



Middle School Choir singing 'Let It Be'



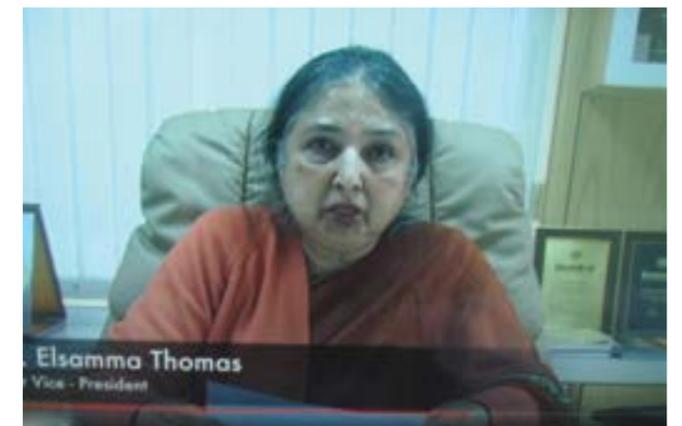
The Principal, Mrs Sheila Alexander delivering the welcome address

The Chief Guest of the event, **Shri Justice (Retd.) P Sathasivam**, Former Chief Justice of India and Governor of Kerala, then addressed the staff, students, their parents and guardians. He conveyed his best wishes to all the students of GSIS which he said is undoubtedly one of the best co-educational schools in India. *"The school embraces all cultures and endeavours to promote a constant and healthy growth in academics and extra-curricular activities,"* he said. *"I am happy to note that the school has virtually all basic requirements and there is invariably an effort to blend tradition with modernity in a truly international sense,"* he added.

The Senior Vice President, **Mrs Elsamma Thomas** delivered the Expression of Gratitude. The Primary School Choir virtually performed the action song 'Yesterday's Dreams', a song written by *Vernon Bullock, Jack Goga, Ivy Jo Hunter* and *Pam Sawyer*. The Indian Music Choir presented a mixture of traditional and modern music. The students also sang the cover version of a Bollywood song composed by *Anu Malik* and taken from the movie *Border*. Students of high school and higher secondary school presented a *Jugalbandi* dance which is a fusion of *Bharatanatyam* and *Kathak* as a tribute to the late Founder-Principal Dr P C Thomas. Dr Thomas has inspired students to follow their passion, work hard and ultimately strive for excellence and creativity. The Guitar Ensemble of GSIS performed an instrumental rendition of 'Somebody That I Used to Know', a song written by Belgian-Australian singer-songwriter *Gotye*, featuring New Zealand singer *Kimbra*. The song was written and recorded by *Gotye* at his parents' house on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria, Australia, and is lyrically related to the experiences he has had with relationships. Next was the turn of **Denize D'Souza** and **Jeffin Varghese Thomas**. They sang a medley of two songs as a duet. The song, 'Hero', was originally written by *Mariah Carey* and 'If Heaven Was Needing A Hero' was written by *Jo Dee Messina*. The Choir then presented 'Happy', a song written, produced, and performed by American singer *Pharrell Williams* and released as the first and only single from the soundtrack album for the film *Despicable Me 2* (2013). The programme came to an end with the rendition of the school anthem by the senior choir.



Speech by the Chairman of the Board of Governors of GSIS, Mr V Selvaraj, IAS (Retd.)



Expression of Gratitude by the Senior Vice President, Mrs Elsamma Thomas



*The Primary School Choir virtually performing the action song, 'Yesterday's Dreams'*



*The Indian Music Choir presenting a mixture of traditional and modern music*



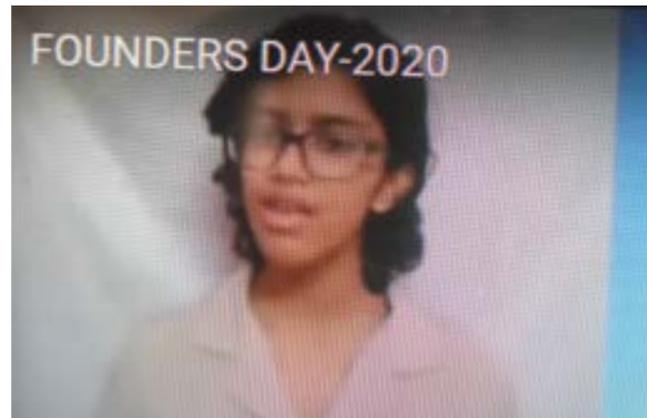
*The choir singing the song, 'Happy'*



*Rendition of the school anthem by the senior choir*



*Students of high school and higher secondary school presenting a Jugabandi dance*



*Ms Denize D'Souza singing a medley of two songs*

## Virtual Model GSMUN



*Flag presentation*



*The Guitar Ensemble of GSIS performing an instrumental rendition of the song, 'Somebody That I Used to Know'*

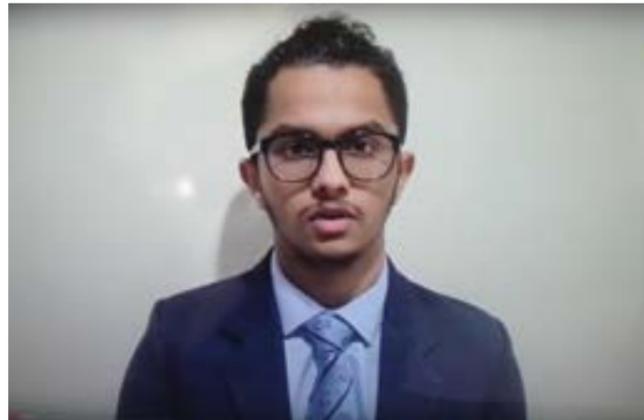
Students of GSIS participated in a virtual academic simulation of the United Nations. Students learned about the activities of the United Nations, international relations, diplomacy and world affairs. The event provided a good opportunity to hone writing, public speaking, problem-solving and leadership skills as well as foster negotiation, critical thinking and teamwork in students. We appreciate the efforts and hard work of the students and their teachers.

Students were placed in different committees where they represented members of that body of the UN and were assigned countries to represent. The delegates then selected appropriate topics to discuss, formulated their positions, discussed and debated with their fellow delegates in the committees. Students represented the following seven committees of the Model UN:

1. Economic and Financial Council [ECOFIN]
2. Special Political and Decolonization Committee [SPECPOL]
3. The Youth Assembly [YA]



*The Deputy Secretary-General, Ms Mangalam Karuppiah addressing the delegates*



*The Secretary-General, Master Daiwik Locherla Satisha declaring the GSMUN 2020 open*



*Master Kris Rajkumar Jain, Co-Head of the Youth Assembly addressing the delegates*



*Ms Rishika Himanshu Sopariwala, Co-Head of the UNODC addressing the delegates*



*Master Armaan Jain delivering the welcome address*



*Dr Muralee Thummarukudy, the Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction in the UN Environment Programme, virtually addressing the students and staff*



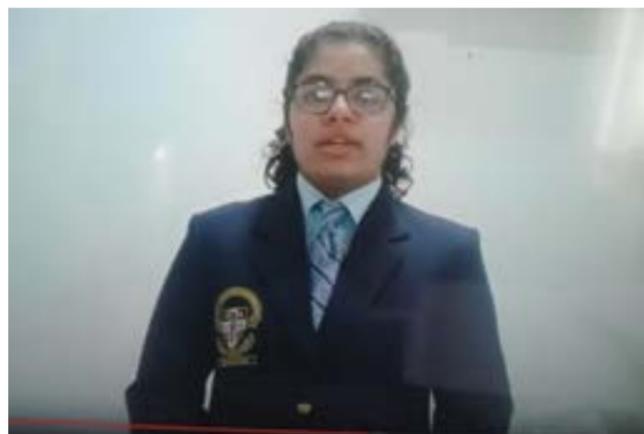
*Master Adesh Kedia, Co-Head of DISEC addressing the delegates*



*A musical interlude*



*Master Meet Dobariya, Co-Head of ECOFIN addressing the delegates*



*Ms Kashika Sunil Gulabani, Co-Head of SPECPOL addressing the delegates*

The opening ceremony was held on Thursday, 08 October 2020. The programme started with a flag presentation by delegates of the participant countries. The Deputy Secretary-General, **Ms Mangalam Karuppiah** addressed the delegates. She said that this is the time when we can put our differences aside and come together to make the world a better place. The Secretary-General, **Master Daiwik Locherla Satisha** declared the **GSMUN – 2020** open. **Master Armaan Jain** delivered the welcome address. He introduced the chief guest to the staff, students and their parents. The chief guest of the opening ceremony, **Dr Muralee Thummarukudy**, the Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction in the UN Environment Programme, virtually addressed the students and staff. Since 2003, Dr Muralee has been with the United Nations Environment Programme. He has over 25 years of experience in Environment and Disaster Management around the world. “When young people start to be sensitive to issues outside the classroom, start to internalise the global dynamics as to how nations react and collaborate and compete, that is when things start to change”, he said. Co-Heads of the various committees then addressed the delegates. A musical interlude followed. The Expression of Gratitude was delivered by **Ms Dhiyani Khoont** of Grade 12.

4. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [UNODC]
5. Disarmament and International Security Council [DISEC]
6. United Nations Human Rights Council [UNHRC]
7. Security Council [SC]

The delegates addressed issues ranging from economic crisis, territorial disputes and drugs to crime.

During the closing ceremony held on Friday, 09 October 2020, the Secretary-General, **Master Daiwik Locherla Satisha** addressed the delegates. The Heads of all the seven committees presented their reports and virtually addressed the participants. This was followed by a video presentation of GSMUN 2020. **Ms Eve Saha** of Grade 12 introduced the chief guest and delivered the welcome address. The chief guest of the closing ceremony was **Mr Shabari Nair**, Labour



*The Expression of Gratitude being delivered by Ms Dhiyani Khoont of Grade 12*



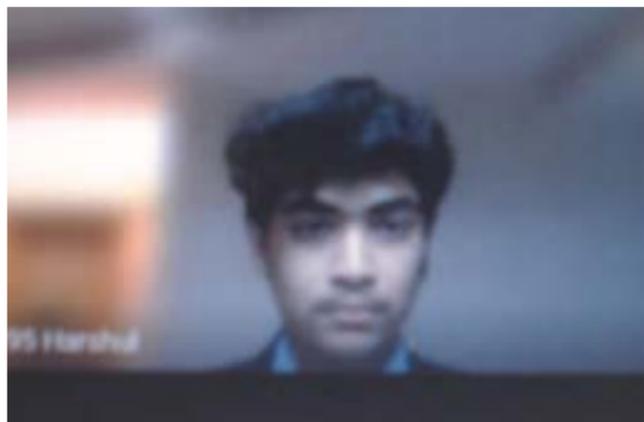
*The Secretary-General, Master Daiwik Locherla Satisha addressing the delegates*



*Ms Diyansha Magesh, Head of DISEC addressing the delegates*



*Ms Kanupriya Winkle, Head of the UNHRC addressing the delegates*



*Master Harshul Ashish Amin, Head of ECOFIN addressing the delegates*



*Master Hariyanth Nagesh, Head of SPECPOL addressing the delegates*



*Video presentation of GSMUN 2020*



*Ms Ravina Jaywant Patel, Head of the Youth Assembly addressing the delegates*



*Ms Denize D'Souza, Head of UNODC addressing the delegates*



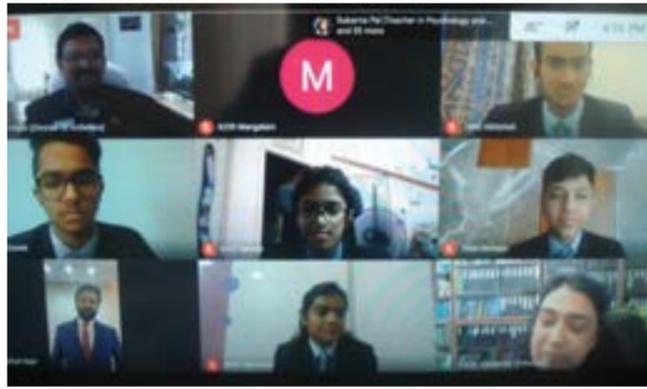
*Welcome Address by Ms Eve Saha of Grade 12*



*The chief guest of the closing ceremony, Mr Shabari Nair addressing the delegates*

Migration Specialist for South Asia in the International Labour Organization. He is an alumnus of GSIS. The chief guest, **Mr Shabari Nair** addressed the attendees. In his address, he reiterated that nothing is possible without recognizing that one is a part of a broader community. *“You will not be able to achieve anything on your own,”* he added. This was followed by an interactive session during which the chief guest answered several questions raised by the delegates. Expression

of Gratitude was given by **Master Devya Goenka** of Grade 12. The Secretary-General, **Master Daiwik Locherla Satisha** declared the GSMUN – 2020 closed. The programme culminated with the rendition of the school anthem.



Interactive session with the delegates



Expression of Gratitude by Master Devya Goenka of Grade 12



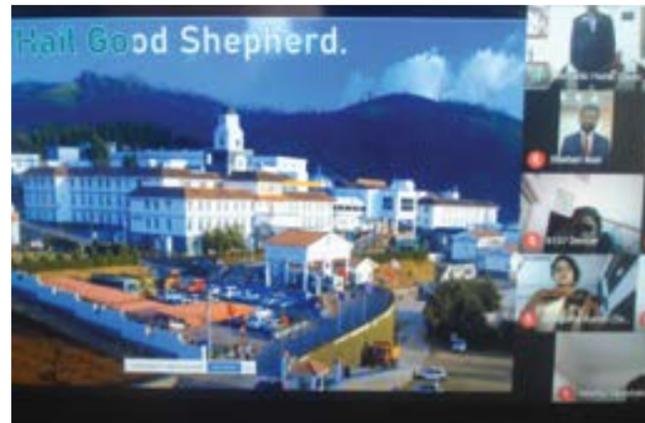
Students singing the patriotic song, 'Sare Jahan se Accha'



The video presentation depicting the life and work of Gandhiji



The Secretary-General, Master Daiwik Locherla Satisha declaring the GSMUN 2020 closed



Students singing the School Anthem



Master Utkarsh Navin Goliya, 10B, speaking on the occasion

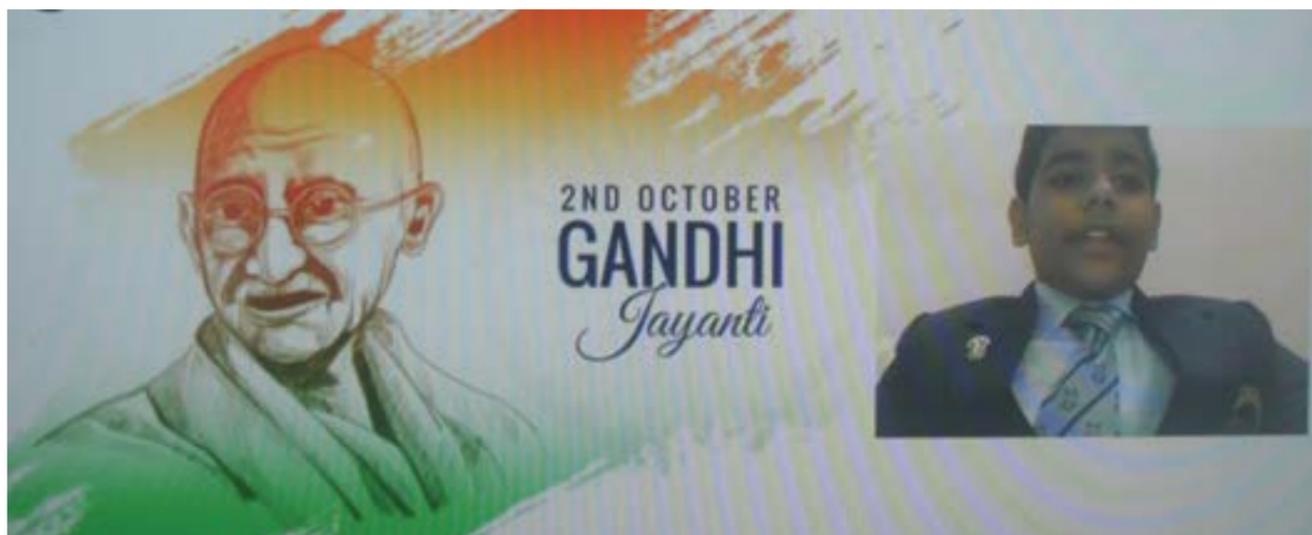


Ms Angelinaashita Ashish Rajwadi, 9A, addressing the students

## Gandhi Jayanti Celebrated

*"Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes."*

- Mahatma Gandhi



The virtual cultural programme in progress

The 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi was celebrated by the students and staff of GSIS on Friday, 02 October 2020. In honour of Gandhiji, a pioneer of truth and non-violence, October 2 is also celebrated as **International Day of Non-Violence**. Schools, colleges and other institutions across states and territories in India celebrate this day with prayer services, commemorative ceremonies and cultural events.

**Mahatma Gandhi** was born on 02 October 1869, in Porbandar, Gujarat. Gandhiji is one of the greatest and bravest freedom fighters of India. He was a great leader, social reformer and most of all a great teacher. His principle of non-violence, culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and sheer dedication to free India led to our country's independence. He was rightly given the tag of the **Father of the Nation**.

To commemorate this occasion, the school organized a *walkathon* early morning across the campus at GSIS for people both old and young to enable them to stay fit and fine as the fresh morning air can help calm nerves, improve mood, and keep one energetic and positive for the rest of the day.

A virtual cultural programme was also organized by the school to celebrate the occasion. The programme started with a rendition of '*Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram*', a notable bhajan that was a favourite song of Gandhiji and widely popularised by him. The Indian music choir sang '*Sare Jahan se Accha*', a patriotic song written by the great poet, Muhammad Iqbal. This much loved song had an inspiring and profound impact. **Master Utkarsh Navin Goliya, 10B, Ms Angelinaashita Ashish Rajwadi, 9A and Ms Diyanasha Magesh, IB-1A**, addressed the students and staff. They described Gandhi as an apostle of peace and non-violence and spoke about his vision, life work, principles and ideologies. Girls of middle school then presented a folk dance of Maharashtra. They entertained the students and members of staff with their rhythmic movements as they danced to the melodious tune and mesmerizing music of the classical Hindi song, '*Albela sajan aayo re.*' **Master Pranshu Yaduka** of 9A then played the bhajan, '*Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram*', on



*Address by Ms Diyansha Magesh, IB-1A*



*Dance performance by Middle School girls*



*Master Pranshu Yaduka, 9A, playing the bhajan, 'Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram', on his guitar*



*The Indian Music Choir singing 'Vande Mataram', the national song of India*

his guitar in the most simple and intuitive way. The programme ended with a beautiful rendition of 'Vande Mataram', the national song of India, by the Indian music choir. **Master Kanishk Magesh**, FM-2C, acted as the emcee during the programme.

Mahatma Gandhi has inspired people to lead a life of simple living and high thinking. Gandhiji and his teachings are fondly remembered and valued by people of all ages even today. He has left an immeasurable mark on the history of mankind, one which would be forever remembered. Let us all remember the great freedom fighter and his invaluable teachings on his birth anniversary, take inspiration from his words and actions and take his legacy forward. **Happy Gandhi Jayanti!**

*"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."*

**- Mahatma Gandhi**