



The Shepherd's Monthly Newsletter *Voice*



GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Good Shepherd Knowledge Village

M. Palada Post, Ootacamund - 643 004, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, India

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71st Republic Day: Students Celebrated the Spirit of Unity

"Bombs and pistols do not make a revolution. The sword of revolution is sharpened on the whetting-stone of idea."
- Bhagat Singh



The Chief Guest, Brig Sandeep Shankar, hoisting the national tricolour on 26 January 2020



A warm welcome!



The Chief Guest, Brig Sandeep Shankar, along with the Senior Vice President and Senior Vice Principals



Presentation of a bouquet to the Chief Guest



Speech by Master Utkarsh Dutta, Grade 6

India declared itself a Sovereign, Democratic and Republic state with the adoption of the Constitution on January 26, 1950, even though India became a free nation on August 15, 1947. A salute of 21 guns and the unfurling of the Indian National Flag by Dr Rajendra Prasad heralded the historic birth of the Indian Republic on that day. Thereafter, 26th of January was decreed a national holiday and was recognized as the Republic Day of India.

The **71st Republic Day** celebrations in Good Shepherd International School, Palada, commenced with the bugle call ushering the arrival of the Chief Guest, **Brig Sandeep Shankar**, Commandant of the Military Hospital, Wellington, who hoisted the National Flag accompanied by the National Anthem played by the boys' band. **Master Utkarsh Dutta** of Grade 6 from the Fernhill campus eloquently delivered a splendid speech on the significance of the Republic Day and the struggles our forefathers had gone through to give us the freedom that we now enjoy. This was followed by a mellifluous rendition of the national song, 'Vande Mataram', by the Indian music choir, which instilled in our hearts a patriotic fervour. The national song of India personified India as a mother goddess and inspired activists during the Indian independence movement. The song which praised our motherland, was originally composed in Sanskrit stotra by **Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterjee**, the Indian novelist, poet and journalist. Following the song, a speech was delivered by **Ms S K Dharshini** of the Good Shepherd Finishing School. She apprised us about the condition of women in general and specifically to that of our nation. Speaking on the core of women empowerment, she briefed us about the importance of improving the status of women across our country.

Following this was a melodious and refreshing performance of the song, 'Ae Watan', by the Indian music choir. The speech by **Master Krish Surana** of Grade 12 was next, in which he exalted the motto of our nation, 'Satyameva Jayathe', meaning 'Truth Alone Triumphs'. He stressed on how the youth of today should tread on the path of Truth and that we need to understand the immense value of the Freedom we have and Responsibility we have towards our nation. The emphasis was on strengthening the unity of our nation by promoting an inclusive mindset without ignoring the minorities of our nation.



Indian music choir singing 'Vande Mataram', the National Song of India



Speech by Ms S K Dharshini of GSFS



Speech by Master Krish Surana, Grade 12



Welcome Address by Ms Simran Nimish Makvana, Grade 9

The welcome note by **Ms Simran Nimish Makvana** of Grade 9 was followed by the much-awaited address by the Chief Guest, Brig Sandeep Shankar, Commandant of the Military Hospital, Wellington. The esteemed guest of honour enlightened us on varied aspects of patriotism, beginning with the significance of our constitution and its inception seventy years ago. He went on to talk about how each one of us can exercise our innate patriotism effectively and defend our nation and its constitution without necessarily using any weapons or standing guard on the country's geographical borders. Brig Sandeep Shankar made his speech one of its kind by alluding to the story of Krishna who inspired Arjuna to perform his duty with dedication during one of the most crucial and disheartening moments of the Kurukshetra war. He persuaded the audience to be committed and perform our duty towards our nation by adhering to the ideals of our nation which has been outlined in the constitution. The speech came to a close in a majestic manner, exactly the way it began, quoting the last few lines of the great Gettysburg speech of U.S. President Abraham Lincoln which was delivered during the American Civil War at the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. *"It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honoured dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth,"* he said.

The ceremonial event came to a close with the Expression of Gratitude by **Master Sriniketh Krishnan** of Grade 12 in which he thanked the chief guest, Brig Sandeep Shankar, and extended his gratitude to all the members of the school, including the IT and the support staff for making the auspicious event a remarkable success. He concluded by encouraging us all to ponder upon the various ideas put forth by the eminent speakers on the day, and work on committing ourselves sincerely to the progress and advancement of our nation by raising up everyone around us along with us.



The Chief Guest, Brig Sandeep Shankar, delivering the Republic Day speech



A memento being presented to the Chief Guest



Expression of Gratitude by Master Sriniketh Krishnan, Grade 12



The school band playing the School Anthem



A view of the gathering of students and staff during the flag-hoisting ceremony on 26 January 2020

***“Freedom in Mind, Faith in Words, Pride in our Heart, Memories in our Souls,
Let us Salute The Nation on the 71st REPUBLIC DAY.”***

Outstanding Cambridge Learner Award



Nachaphol Thammahongsa



High Achievement Award Certificate

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of the University of Cambridge that prepares school students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. It is the world's largest provider of international education programmes and qualifications for 5 to 19-year olds. Over 10000 schools in more than 160 countries belong to the Cambridge community. Every year nearly a million students worldwide study courses organised by Cambridge International, which has been providing international exams for more than 160 years. It helps students discover new abilities and a wider world and gives them the transferable skills they need for life, so they can achieve success at school, university and work. The global awards celebrate the highest performing students

from over 40 countries in qualifications recognised around the world by leading universities and employers.

Cambridge Assessment International Education released the list of “**Cambridge Outstanding Learner Awards**” winners for the November 2018 and March-June 2019 series. In 2018-19, 207 Indian students from across the country have been declared winners and have received Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards. We are delighted to share with you that our student, **Nachaphol Thammahongsa** of GSIS, is a recipient of the prestigious **High Achievement Award** for his exceptional performance in Cambridge IGCSE First Language Thai board examination that was held at GSIS in June 2019.

Our **congratulations** to him for this impressive achievement and to his parents for their support. We wish him tremendous success and look forward to see him shine in his academic and professional careers. We would also take this opportunity to thank **Mrs Noorhedayah Saenserm**, his Thai teacher, for her hard work and commitment that is evident in this high achievement.

Cambridge Schools Conference



Mrs Julie Pradeesh, Vice Principal & Vice President and Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal of GSIS at the Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre in Bali, Indonesia

The **Cambridge Schools Conference** is an opportunity for school leaders and Cambridge teachers from different countries to share knowledge, apply new concepts and discuss common challenges in education. The Cambridge Schools Conference was held at the **Bali Nusa Dua Convention Centre** in Bali, Indonesia on the 9th and 10th of December 2019. **Mrs Julie Pradeesh**, Vice Principal and Vice President and **Mrs Sheila Alexander**, Senior Vice Principal (Academics) of GSIS attended the conference.

At the conference, the international experts and the delegates explored the theme - ‘*Evaluating impact: how effective is our school and classroom practice.*’ There were workshops, break-out discussions, keynote speeches and presentations by international experts. The delegates also discussed how schools can evaluate their effectiveness, how teachers can decide what works best for their students, the elements of great teaching, the role school leaders can play in evaluating impact, the impact of outdoor activities on learning and examples of best practice. Sessions were also held to enable delegates to create an evidence-based approach to improvement involving the whole school, study the impact of different teaching methods and other initiatives that can bring about positive changes in schools.

Staff Orientation: A Sensitive Awareness Programme offered to Staff

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge."

- Albert Einstein



Orientation programme in progress



Welcome Address by Mrs Elsamma Thomas, Co-Founder of GSIS



Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal (Academics), addressing the staff

Welcome the new year 2020! 'A home away from home' amidst the pristine setting where serenity prevails, makes one forget the conflicts and complexities that looms large in the world around, the unpleasant memories of the past year are set aside and we are geared to welcome the new year with new hopes, new visions and new resolutions. This is the homecoming of the faculty of the Good Shepherd family in the year 2020.

Once again, the Good Shepherd family came back home from the rejuvenating winter vacation, refreshed, invigorated to resume their duties as residential faculty and welcome the new year 2020 with sincere and dedicated resolutions to raise the bar. It is the norm to orient the staff and the **Staff Orientation 2020** on Thursday, 16th January was in the spacious school auditorium at 9.30 am keeping with the tradition of punctuality which is strictly followed by the Principal **Dr P C Thomas**. **Mr Dominic Jude Hurst**, the Director of Activities, started the programme with the introduction of the speakers of the day.

The welcome address was delivered by the Co-Founder of GSIS, **Mrs Elsamma Thomas**, who extended warm greetings to the Good Shepherd Staff and conveyed New Year greetings on behalf of the Principal and the family. Endorsing the quote put on display, she reiterated 'Quit some bad habits.' GSIS being a home away from home, the staff - old as well as new - were oriented to welcome the students and thereby reminded that it was their responsibility to take care of their overall well-being. Emphasizing on the motto of the school, she reinforced the idea of passion of a teacher to carry out the duties zealously, be it in the classroom, playfield, the dormitory or the dining hall. It is a joint effort on the part of the academic community to lend a helping hand to the dorm parents to meet the challenge of knowing and grooming the 'millennial kids' and help them overcome their problems. This was followed by an invocative prayer, invoking the Almighty who is eternal, a prayer to meditate and ponder on - *"Never lose hope, God is always by your side."* Two new members who have been inducted in our faculty - **Ms G Hemalatha**, Counsellor for High School and **Ms Regina Kuruthukulangara** in the Design Technology Department - were introduced and welcomed.



Brig Suresh Kumar (Retd), Senior Vice Principal [Administration], speaking on 'stay happy to do your best'



Mr S Aditya speaking on 'Reflections and pathways of teaching and learning'

The Senior Vice Principal (Academics), **Mrs Sheila Alexander**, was the next speaker who was introduced as a true educationist to put on the track the kids of the 21st century. She reiterated the motto of the school which should function on four areas of importance to make the adage 'Home away from home' a success. Every New Year is rooted in the past and that is progression moving onto further development and improvement. The quiz of 16th December 2019 was an eye-opener with facts which mark 21st century education – the new trends in teaching, learning, activities in the class, collaboration, setting high expectations, being equipped with in-depth subject knowledge are some of the yardsticks which feature modern pedagogy. Along with the do's in the teaching process, she also stated the don'ts which the teachers should be cautious about, the challenges which have to be tackled and the problems which have to be resolved to give the best to the students to guide and facilitate their future in this highly dynamic century. The session ended with the beautiful optimism rendered in the song by Louis Armstrong *"What a wonderful world."* It was an illuminating and informative session to orient the teachers prior to the commencement of the second term - a term of board examination with preparations on a war footing and ensuing board examinations along with inter house competitions.

If life is so beautiful and comfortable in Good Shepherd International School, it is attributed to the facilities and infrastructure which is available for the Good Shepherd family, comprising students and staff and the onus of excellent maintenance by the team in the administrative department. The Senior Vice Principal [Administration], **Brigadier Suresh Kumar**, spoke on staying positive and happy, to 'manage time effectively and manage mood'. He also shared some administrative information and apprised about the progress of the new campus. He informed the staff about the induction of the new security team and about the right maintenance of facilities and accommodations available to the students and staff. The new campus is proposed to be completed by March 2020 when students from Grades 8 to 12 will move in, enjoying the state-of-the-art boarding houses, dining hall and sports facilities.

After the refreshing tea break, the audience were enlightened to the presentations from two new teachers in the school - **Mr S Aditya**, the eloquent teacher in English who is diligent, passionate about Carnatic music and **Mr Nishant Kushwaha**, the young mathematics teacher. Quoting from Emily Dickinson's poem, *"Tell all the truth but tell it slant"*, he said -

*"The Truth must dazzle gradually
Or every man be blind."*

Mr Aditya's discourse was on *'Reflections and Pathways of Teaching and Learning'*, highlighting on three modes of Reflective Practice – Reflection on Action, In Action and For Action. He described teachers as 'competent practitioners and charismatic facilitators.' There were few activities to discuss and reflect upon and what are the 'red flag' areas where effective support can be provided by the teacher. He emphasized that teaching is all about catering to the requirements of the students. The next person to address the coterie was Mr Nishant Kushwaha who has been described as an honest and critical teacher. He spoke on *'Teaching and Learning in the 21st century.'* Teacher is a great artist dealing with human minds, who in the 21st century jargon are known as 'digital natives, global, false beginners.' The millennial kids have certain ideas; they learn from the internet, thus equipped with prior knowledge. They are driven by curiosity and imagination, initiative and entrepreneurialism. Therefore, the 3 R's – Rigours, Respect and Relevance should be considered in the modern pedagogy. He discussed on the challenges and barriers in the 21st century classroom and how to initiate critical thinking and problem-solving skills. He stated that 'students are not consumers of knowledge but they are producers of knowledge.'

The Orientation Session was followed by the section meetings, department meetings and culminated with an open forum chaired by **Mrs Elsamma Thomas**, the Senior Vice President & Co-founder of GSIS.

"Reflection is one of the most underused yet powerful tools for success."

- Richard Carlson

Christmas Celebrated with Joy and Religious Fervour



Rendition of Christmas carols by the school choir



Mr Subin Mathew delivering the Christmas message



Nativity Play: Arrival of the Shepherds



The Shepherds with Mary and Baby Jesus

In keeping with the tradition of the Good Shepherd International School, the Christian students and staff celebrated **Christmas** in the auditorium of the Palada Campus. Christmas, the annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, is celebrated on 25 December. Christmas was celebrated at GSIS early on 2nd December 2019 as students and staff will not be in school due to the winter break.

On behalf of every member of the Good Shepherd family, a prayer was offered to God who had sent his son, Jesus, to die on the cross for the sake of human beings. **Mr Subin Mathew**, our music teacher, conveyed the Christmas message. He said that all revered teachers of the world teach us: *Love, Peace and Kindness*. “*We are taught to conquer mountains but the small steps we take determine where we end up. We are blessed beyond measure, so we must ensure to empower others around us*”, he added. Christmas is primarily a religious and cultural event celebrated by billions of people around the world to spread the message of love all over the world.

The Nativity Play was interspersed with the familiar Christmas carols like ‘*O Come All Ye Faithful*’, ‘*Go Tell It on the Mountain*’ and ‘*Silent night, holy night*’. The students of Middle School depicted the series of events that took place in association with the birth of Christ. They showed how Angel Gabriel had appeared before Joseph and Mary, and had told them regarding the Saviour who would be born to them. This was followed by the portrayal of the search for a resting place in Bethlehem when Mary was about to deliver Baby Jesus. The crib then showed the Baby flanked on either side by Joseph and Mary. In the meantime, the audience saw the moving of the star which appeared to the three *Magi* - the three wise men from the East - to guide them to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, when he was born. As they followed the star, the choir students sang the song, ‘*We Three Kings*.’ The next scene, that of the shepherds and the Magi appearing before Joseph, Mary and Baby Jesus, was colourful and gorgeous, befitting the occasion. The wonder was enhanced by the appearance of Santa Claus whose rotund figure, joyful dancing and strewing of goodies, endeared all present in the auditorium to him.

The spirit of joy reverberated through the air and made everyone happy. The programme came to an end with the proposal of the Vote of Thanks by **Mr Dominic Jude Hurst**, the Director of Activities.



The Three Wise Men bringing the three gifts – Gold, frankincense and myrrh



The Three Wise Men and the Shepherds with Mary and Baby Jesus



Strewing of goodies by Santa Claus



Students singing Christmas songs



A view of the audience

“Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.”

- H Jackson Brown Jr.

Group Workshop on 'Language Learning through Literature'



The workshop in progress



Ms Rituja Arvind Kulkarni and Ms Sohini Ghosh seen along with Ms Shradha Anand during the workshop

Macmillan Education India is one of the leading publishers in India which is known for its pioneering innovation in learning since its inception 175 years back. In its endeavour to offer quality education for students and provide an opportunity to the English teachers to understand the pedagogy, Macmillan Education India organised a workshop on 'Language Learning through Literature.' The workshop was organized at the conference hall of Hotel Nahar in Ootacamund from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm on Wednesday, 22 January 2020. It was a one-day session exclusively for English teachers in Nilgiris district.

Fifty teachers from twenty-five schools participated in this workshop. Two teachers from Good Shepherd International School, **Ms Rituja Arvind Kulkarni** from the Junior School, Fernhill campus and **Ms Sohini Ghosh** from the Middle School, Palada campus, attended the workshop.

The speaker was **Ms Shradha Anand**, an eminent and dynamic educator with a rich and diverse experience. Ms Shradha is the author of several textbooks on English, General Knowledge, Value Education, Social Studies and Preschool. She has worked in many reputed schools and has conducted numerous workshops across the country. She is a resource person and materials & curriculum developer for CBSE, ICSE schools and State Boards. She is a confident, innovative, passionate and enthusiastic trainer, fundamentally committed to good practice and a team player. She is engaged in continuous learning in order to broaden her knowledge and experience.

The enthusiastic participants in the workshop carried out many hands-on activities that could be tried in class with students to simplify English language teaching. The workshop started with a discussion on some of the figures of speech which are an integral part of English literary pieces. The teachers were encouraged to take down notes and were later asked to solve worksheets to test understanding of the discussed topics. This was followed by playing of games like Treasure Hunt, Dumb Charade, Chinese Whispers, Role Play which helped teachers understand that teaching language is always effectively done if it happens with the help of activities. Teachers were encouraged to give the learners a chance to choose how they want to learn a topic and so were asked to never be predictable; conducting a plethora of interesting activities is the best way for effective teaching. In the second half of the seminar, Ms Shradha spoke about more activities that could be done in classrooms specific to different subskills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing skills. She also spoke about how there are nine multiple intelligences and how not every student can be good in all. So it is the teacher's responsibility to try to discover the best in each individual student and encourage him/her to grow in what he/she is good. The speaker spoke about life skills too which helped the teachers understand their students better. Being a trained counselor, Ms Shradha gave suggestions too on how to handle students in class. The teachers got a wonderful opportunity to learn some new methodologies as per the 21st century learning and teaching skills. The workshop also effectively addressed several concerns of teachers. At the end of the workshop, the participant teachers were awarded certificates of participation. It was an extremely enriching session for teachers, both old and new.

"Life always gives us exactly the teacher we need at every moment. This includes every mosquito, every misfortune, every red light, every traffic jam, every obnoxious supervisor (or employee), every illness, every loss, every moment of joy or depression, every addiction, every piece of garbage, every breath. Every moment is the guru."

- Charlotte Joko Beck

Inter School Basketball Tournament 2019



GSIS U-19 boys' basketball team A



The final match in progress

The **Inter School Basketball Tournament** for U-19 boys was held at the Palada Campus of GSIS on Sunday, 24 November 2019. The following teams participated in the tournament:

1. Good Shepherd International School Team A
2. Good Shepherd International School Team B
3. Crescent Castle Public School, Ooty

4. Laidlaw Memorial School & Junior College, Ketti
5. St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Ooty
6. Morning Star Higher Secondary School, Gudalur

The GSIS U-19 Boys' Team A emerged **Winners**. In the final match, they defeated Laidlaw Memorial School & Junior College, Ketti. Score: 64 – 42. The following students have won special prizes:

Most Promising Player : Master Balamurugan (Laidlaw Memorial School & Junior College)

Most Valuable Player : Master Sandeep Sudharsan (GSIS)

Best Shooter : Master Raunak Chowdhary (GSIS)

Best Player : Master Gurucharan Sanjeev Kumar (GSIS)



Most Valuable Player: Master Sandeep Sudharsan



Best Shooter: Master Raunak Chowdhary



Best Player: Master Gurucharan Sanjeev Kumar

Mr Dominic Jude Hurst, Director of Activities of GSIS, gave away the certificates and trophies. **Well done!**

Nilgiris District Table Tennis Tournament



Daparathi Meghana Chowdary, Nimit Agarwal and Veer Heet Dholakia seen along with their TT coach, Mr Sudheendran Balakrishnan

The **Nilgiris District Table Tennis Open Tournament** was held at the **Kerala Samajam**, Coonoor, on Saturday, 23 November 2019.

The students of GSIS whose names are mentioned in the table shown below have won the following places in the tournament:

Name of student	Class	Category	Place
Nirmit Agarwal	FM-1C	Sub-junior boys (U-14)	Third place
Veer Heet Dholakia	FM-2C	Sub-junior boys (U-14)	Third place
Daparathi Meghana Chowdary	7A	Sub-junior girls (U-14)	Third place
			Most Promising Player

Well done!

IAYP: Voluntary Service to a Tribal Community in the Nilgiris

*Five students of GSIS - **Master Devya Robin Goenka, Master Armaan Jain, Master Pallapati Rushik, Master Shubh Amit Patel and Ms Eve Saha** of IB-1 - are selected for the Gold level of the **International Award for Young People (IAYP)**. At the Gold level, participants complete a residential project. As part of the residential project, our students visited Kolikarai, a tribal village near Kotagiri, from 28 January to 1 February 2020, to create opportunities for them to be physically active, develop their skills, experience adventure and give service to the local community. A student's reflection on his own learning experience at Kolikarai village is stated below.*



Our student volunteers seen interacting with the villagers

If a word existed to describe this experience, then that word would still fail to enunciate the complex nature of this experience. In the five days I spent at *Kolikarai village*, I didn't simply adapt to live in a lifestyle which seemed so foreign, I learned to value tasks and chores which held value of nature to me. Ranging from cleaning rooms, cooking meals, washing the toilets to having a bath in the river which was cold and refreshing, by the way, the tasks which seem so primitive were suddenly so significant. Essentially, I discovered not the importance of the big things in life but rather the parts which were insignificant, not just to my friends and to me, but also to the villagers whom we lived with.

For those who know what our primary project was, they would agree with me when I say that whitewashing and painting are no easy tasks. With our primary focus being the restoration of a hospital ward with some time spent on whitewashing the front of the hospital, it was an experience which challenged me not merely to adapt to the lifestyle of a tribal villager, but to also to endure and overcome the life of a labourer. Trust me when I say that I have now started noticing the paint job at our campus, and with this, I have learned to appreciate the cleanliness which clean walls provide and how this is one vital element of the sense of security which houses entail.

When thinking about the sense of security, I find it worth mentioning our interaction with the locals. We were shocked when we learned that many villagers refused to stay in a nearby hospital (not the one which we were painting) because of its dilapidated state and the resultant apprehension. That is the grave condition of many hospitals in the region.



Students painting the walls of the local hospital in Kolikarai



Distributing clothes to the villagers



Our student volunteers donating food to the children in the village



Students cooking their own food

We may be in the 21st century, we may boast about our modern technology, spend trillions on research and development, but we have not directed our attention to those in need. There is no true success in our development if we still fail to meet the basic needs of millions. There is no glory in economic growth if poverty still rules societies of the so-called underprivileged. 'So-called', because we say so. But this trip made me question why we say so? We say that they live under the poverty line (economically, they do), they may not have enough money, yet what is it that they will do with the money if nobody there uses it? We spoke to a nurse who said that money would do her no good, as there is no way of using it anywhere there.

We say that we are privileged, yet I fail to see how they are any less happy than us. They may not have many resources but they were grateful with what they had, rather, they were contented with their lives. This makes me wonder: is technology really a 'privilege'?

- Master Armaan Jain, IB-1B

"Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place."

- Rosalynn Carter

GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL

Ballroom Dance Competition

"The dance is a poem of which each movement is a word" - Mata Hari



Ballroom dance training in progress at GSFS



Girls of GSFS seen along with the Dean and the dance instructors

Dance is a performing art form consisting of purposefully selected sequences of human movements that are of aesthetic and symbolic value. **Ballroom dance** is a set of partner dances, of two people dancing together to a music, one whose basic choreography involves coordinated dancing of the two partners in perfect harmony. This is a social and competitive style of dance performed and enjoyed by people all around the world. Ballroom dance is also widely enjoyed on stage, film and television because of its performance and entertainment aspects.

The students of the 3 months' batch of GSFS were participants of the ballroom dance workshop organised on 30 and 31 January 2020. They twirled to the rhythms of *Cha-cha-cha* and *Jive* as trained by their instructor, Mr Prithviraj. At the conclusion of their training course, a **ballroom dance competition** was organised. The young and vibrant girls took their steps in lively and uninhibited variations of *jive* dance. In ballroom dance competitions, dancers are judged by various criteria such as composure, the hold or frame, deportment, musicality and expression, timing, body alignment, floor craft, foot and leg action and presentation. The following duos emerged winners:

1st Place : Ms Vinutha Chudi and Ms Rishika Goyal



Teams that participated in the duet division of the ballroom dance competition



Ballroom Dance Competition: 1st Place - Ms Vinutha Chudi and Ms Rishika Goyal



2nd Place : Ms Riddhi Agarwal and Ms Muskan Agarwal



3rd Place : Ms Tanvi Diwakar and Ms Ishita Aggarwal



Winners of the ballroom dance competition

2nd Place : Ms Riddhi Agarwal and Ms Muskan Agarwal

3rd Place : Ms Tanvi Diwakar and Ms Ishita Aggarwal

The girls managed their time well and displayed a lot of concentration, team spirit, poise and grace. **Well done!**