



The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter



GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Good Shepherd Knowledge Village

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

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A Tribute to the Nation: 73rd Independence Day



The Chief Guest, Maj Gen N S Raja Subramani, SM, VSM, hoisting the national tricolour

The monsoon showers in the Nilgiris themselves took a pause to help celebrate India's **73rd Independence Day** at Good Shepherd International School. The GSIS family awoke to relatively clear skies with dawning patriotism that seeped the very august day of August 15.

Post a hearty breakfast, the programme - **A Tribute to the Nation** - was set afoot with the piercing notes of the bugle, calling to attention the gathering assembled in the auditorium at the arrival of the **Chief Guest, Maj Gen N S Raja Subramani, SM, VSM** - Chief Instructor (Army) of Defence Services Staff College (DSSC). The Chief Guest hoisted the national flag to the brass band's rendition of the National Anthem (*Jana Gana Mana*). The assembly joined in the flourish, singing the words to the tune, with great fervour.

The first speaker for the occasion, **Ms Ayushi Mehta** (Grade 8) chose to stress upon the importance of coming together to pay homage to the nation on such a significant day. The programme was musically punctuated with two patriotic songs - *Vande Mataram* and *Kadam Kadam Bhadhaye Jaa* - by the Indian music choir. The speech for the Independence Day from the student body was delivered by **Master Kumaravel Harikaran** (Grade 11) which called us to acknowledge and aid the sections of the Indian society that do not experience complete freedom in this free India, bound as they are by the shackles of social and economic iniquity.

With the dignitaries - **Mrs Elsamma Thomas** (Senior Vice President), **Maj Gen N S Raja Subramani**, **Mrs Mahalakshmi Subramani**, **Mrs Sheila Alexander** (Senior Vice Principal – Academics) and **Brig Suresh Kumar** (Senior Vice Principal – Administration) seated on the dais, the warm welcome note came from the school's Head Boy - **Master Sriniketh**



Maj Gen N S Raja Subramani, SM, VSM, in conversation with Mrs Elsamma Thomas, Senior Vice President



The Indian music choir singing 'Vande Mataram'



The Chief Guest seated along with the Senior Vice President and the Senior Vice Principal (Administration)



The dignitaries seated on the dais

Krishnan (Grade 12), who welcomed the Chief Guest and the audience, dwelling upon the nature of our patriotism, decrying any aristocratic alienation.

The Chief Guest - **Maj Gen N S Raja Subramani** - delivered the principal address of the day for the community, choosing to focus on his young audience and providing them with some key pointers to take with them in their journey of actualizing their and their nation's potential. *"We are the world's largest democracy, we are a diverse people who are united in our diversity. The Indian Army is the second largest military in the world today and I can assure you that the Indian armed forces will leave no stone unturned and nobody dares to cast an evil eye on it. Because of the soldiers on the front, because our people in the armed forces guard our security, we are able to sleep peacefully, we are able to contribute to development and we are able to move along to ensure that the country prospers and progresses peacefully,"* he said. *"While India has grown, there are a number of challenges. Some challenges have been tackled by our generation and some challenges will have to be tackled by you,"* he added.

The trail of words came to a still with the distribution of medals and certificates by **Mrs Mahalakshmi Subramani** to the many Shepherdians who secured important positions in several school and district level competitions, ranging from quiz to tennis. With **Master Vedaant Vinodkumar Jain's** (Grade 10) words expressing his gratitude to all gathered, the solemn occasion came to a close and the gathering moved to the dining hall to enjoy the delicious tri-coloured bakes for refreshments.

"The love of independence and dislike of unjust treatment is the source of a thousand virtues."

- William Godwin



Ms Ayushi Mehta speaking on the occasion



Master Kumaravel Harikaran addressing the audience



Master Sriniketh Krishnan delivering the Welcome Address



Maj Gen N S Raja Subramani delivered the principal address of the day



Mrs Mahalakshmi Subramani distributing certificates

An Orientation Programme organised for Teachers

“Future orientation is combined with a notion and expectation of progress, and nothing is impossible.”

- Alan Dundes



The Principal, Dr P C Thomas, addressing the faculty



The Senior Vice Principal (Academics), Mrs Sheila Alexander, delivering the Welcome Address



The Senior Vice Principal (Administration), Brig Suresh Kumar (Retd), addressing the audience



A presentation on Mental Fitness, Mindfulness and Emotional Hygiene by Ms Bindiya Murgai, a therapist and life coach from the Nilgiris

The two-day **Orientation Programme** commenced on 16th July 2019 with members of the Academic Council and the teaching faculty assembling in the auditorium with new goals and objectives set for the new term and the new academic year.

To set the ball rolling, the programme started with a prayer followed by a session by **Mrs Sheila Alexander** [Senior Vice Principal - Academics]. She welcomed the new as well as the existing teachers and reiterated the Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives of the school. She read out the definition of learning, stressing on the keywords *life-long journey, positive transformation, engagement* and to attain it through a variety of experiences. The definition was explained to all. The onus of teaching lies in being resourceful, meaningful and engage the class in meaningful learning activities. There was a display of all the curriculums offered in our school for the information of the new teachers. After recapitulating all the Learning Principles, she emphasized on the school's objective to be “ready for transformation” and provide resources that will develop critical thinking and self-management skills among the students. The teachers will be facilitators, catering to all types of students of differential abilities. Restating the ACE Learning Principles, she advised all the teachers to be ready to learn, relearn and work collaboratively. Information was provided on the expansion of the new campus which will start functioning from 2020. She also informed the faculty about the strategic planning for 2019 – 2020 and 2020-2021:

- Spanish will be introduced for grades II to VI from the academic year 2020-2021 in the curriculum of the Cambridge Primary.
- Spanish B will be introduced for grades XI and XII in the IBDP curriculum from the academic year 2020-2021 if we have a minimum of 10 students.



Members of the Academic Council and the faculty during the orientation programme

- Introduction of Art & Design, Digital Literacy, Music and Physical Education in the Cambridge Primary and Cambridge Lower Secondary from the academic year 2020-2021.
- Introduction of IGCSE March Series Examination from 2021. Design Technology will be taken in the November Series starting 2020 as it is not offered in the March Series.
- Introduction of Pre-IB Programme from April 2021.
- First Language Thai will not be offered from the academic year 2020-2021 onwards.
- Introduction of SCC and Indian Music in the regular timetable and yoga for grade IX from the academic year 2019-2020.
- Introduction of workbook for co-curricular activities from the academic year 2019-2020.
- The co-curricular staff will be involved in the tutor-ward meeting.

The first session culminated with a motivational video, *Gratitude*, by *Fearless Soul*.

The second session was taken by Senior Vice Principal (Administration), **Brig Suresh Kumar (Retd)**, who welcomed the old and the new staff and commended on the Visionary Principal **Dr P C Thomas** whose 44 years of Vision, Mission and Perseverance has resulted in building and evolving this glorious institution. His detailed graphic presentation highlighted Good Shepherd International School and the allied institutions which work for the school. General guidelines were reiterated about security, maintenance and facilities provided for the well-being of the school community. A video presentation on the upcoming new campus for boys was the added attraction.

The Director of Counselling, **Mrs Anila Mathew** welcomed this term with the letter C embodying Culture, Care, Community and enthused the teaching faculty with some heart-stirring videos which conveyed messages to make a right choice with our words that can heal, not hurt. Especially, while dealing with children under our care we need to create a culture, a community that cares to create a ‘home away from home environment.’

This was followed by the arrival of The Principal, **Dr P C Thomas**, whose “leadership translates vision to reality.” The customary introduction of the new staff was followed by address by the Principal where he congratulated the staff on the excellent Board Examination results of 2019.

The second day of the Orientation commenced with **Mr Kalyan Ram** [High School Coordinator] speaking on the cultural endorsement of identity with references drawn from our scriptures and epics. This was followed by a presentation, an interactive session on Learning for Understanding, presented by **Mr T Suresh** [Higher Secondary and IBDP Coordinator]. This session recapitulated the Learning Principles, Transfer Goals and how we can move from a two-dimensional curriculum instruction to a three-dimensional one involving Concepts and Big Ideas.

The two-day Orientation culminated with a session on **Mindfulness** taken by Guest presenter **Ms Bindiya Murgai**. This session was interactive with reflective exercises which can control negative thinking and boost self-esteem. The best way to begin the new term is to be re-energized, rejuvenated with new goals set, new plans to move ahead and a heart to embrace learning and learners in this journey of learning.

“Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.”

- Abigail Adams

Students Visit U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama

“There’s a silly notion that failure’s not an option at NASA. Failure is an option here. If things are not failing, you are not innovating enough.”

- Elon Musk



Thirty-five students of GSIS travelled to Huntsville, Alabama, to take part in a NASA Space Camp in May/June 2019

A group of thirty-five students along with three chaperones were part of an educational and entertaining tour of the United States visiting Atlanta, Huntsville and Orlando from 25 May to 8 June 2019.

The **NASA Space Camp** programme which was held at the **U.S. Space and Rocket Center** in Huntsville, Alabama, was spread over a week with three different courses: Aviation Challenge, Space Academy and Robotics, each containing about two to three levels relevant to the person’s age. Each of the three courses holds different values and purposes. The week-long programme involved intense training with lots of fun during which the participants learned several valuable skills.

Aviation Challenge is a military-style training camp and is all about aircrafts, survival and being a pilot. We learned about the basics of flight, how to fly a jet and survive a helicopter crash. We also had the unique experience of flying in an F-16 fighter jet simulator. The training stint of wall climbing surely helped to control and overcome some of our fear. In Aviation Challenge, we had ‘FTX operation.’ FTX stands for Field Training Xperience, where you and your team have to go undercover and rescue a hostage without getting caught by the security. It gives you an opportunity to experience a real-life military operation. The **Space Academy** taught us the theoretical aspects of space, how to carry out space missions and make prototypes of small rockets. This activity enlightens a person about the flying principle of an actual rocket. The feeling of walking in less gravity like that on the moon was also a unique experience. During the **Robotics Camp**, we learned the history of the development of robotics and how to build and programme a robot that can go on land, water and air. At the end of the week, two teams compete in an obstacle course with their robots that they have built over the week. Each programme has an interesting activity at the end of the week. The competitions enrich a person’s team-building skills as one learns to cooperate and work with their team. Overall, they proved to be learning experiences with loads of fun.

On 31 May, we travelled to Decatur, met the Rotarians and enjoyed the ice cream social and pizza party hosted by them. From 2 June to 7 June, we visited different theme parks. We enjoyed the time we spent there and the enhanced experiences at the theme parks in Florida - **Busch Gardens, SeaWorld, Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure, Aquatica Water Park and Magic Kingdom**. Seeing dolphins, orcas, sea lions, other aquatic life, oceanariums, experiencing the adrenaline rush during the roller coaster rides, walking into the world of fictional characters and opportunities offered by action-packed entertainment transported us into a world of magic and excitement.

At the outset of the trip, the students were simply schoolmates travelling together, but at the end of the two weeks, they had become friends.

- Master Hariharasudhan Swaminathan, IB - 2B



Our students in Decatur during the pizza party



Students enjoying their food at a restaurant in the United States



The participants at the space camp



Live show: Students watching an orca performing at SeaWorld in Orlando



Orcas and Sea lions at SeaWorld in Florida



The Walt Disney World Resort in Florida

Workshop on Mental Fitness, Mindfulness and Emotional Hygiene



Ms Bindiya Murgai giving a talk on Mindfulness at GSIS



Ms Bindiya conducting the workshop for members of staff



Members of staff following the tips given by Ms Bindiya to enhance the practice of meditation



A session to promote emotional equilibrium and manage stress

The School Management, keeping in mind the needs of the members of staff handling the millennial children, arranged a one-day workshop on **Mindfulness**. The workshop was conducted by **Ms Bindiya Murgai**, Mental Fitness and Mindfulness Coach, Therapist and Writer, organized in the Palada campus auditorium on Wednesday, 17 July 2019. Ms Bindiya is a recipient of the prestigious **Rex-Karmaveer-Chakra Award** instituted by International-Confederation-Of-NGO-(iCONGO) in partnership with United Nations.

Ms Bindiya exposed the members of staff to various methods of involving themselves and students in mindfulness activities on a regular basis. According to Ms Bindiya Murgai, Mindfulness is the “awareness that arises from paying attention to the present moment without judgement.” Mindfulness is a mental state achieved by focusing one's awareness on the present moment, while calmly acknowledging and accepting one's feelings, thoughts, and bodily sensations, used as a therapeutic technique. As far as teachers are concerned, Mindfulness activities reduce stress, improves physical and mental health, enhances concentration and focus, improves confidence, empathy, compassion and patience thus leading to their becoming better at classroom management and needless to say, better teachers.

The workshop conducted by Ms Bindiya Murgai was a three-pronged one - involving teachers in imbibing the basics of Mindfulness, understanding their physical and mental selves better and learning a few mindfulness activities while practising them. Knowing one another and engaging in mindful self-talk and releasing judgement were highly useful exercises for the teachers. The day ended with the teachers determined to go ahead in the term in a calm and composed manner with little stress.

“Values are related to our emotions, just as we practice physical hygiene to preserve our physical health, we need to observe emotional hygiene to preserve a healthy mind and attitudes.”

- Dalai Lama

Results of Board Examinations 2019: Impressive Show by students of GSIS

Students of Good Shepherd International School have achieved spectacular results in the board examinations for the academic year 2018-19. We are honoured and privileged to present a brief report of the results of the Board Examinations for the academic year 2018-19.

Indian Certificate of Secondary Education Examination - March 2019 [Grade X, ICSE]

The ICSE examinations were held from 22 February to 25 March 2019. Our students excelled in ICSE, registering 100% pass. Of the 28 students who appeared for the examination from Good Shepherd International School in the academic year 2018 – 2019, **20 secured distinction, 6 were awarded first class and 2 obtained second class. The topper scored 93.3%. Five students in Geography, four students in Computer Applications and one student in Chemistry scored a perfect 100.**



Master Maanav Kumarpal Shah



Master Suryansh Jagdish Saboo

The topper from the science stream, **Master Maanav Kumarpal Shah, scored 93.3%. Master Suryansh Jagdish Saboo** topped in Commerce stream. He secured **88%.**

ICSE Examination 2019 (Science):

Second Position : **Master Kumaravel Harikaran and Master Harsh Vardhan [92.7% each]**

Third Position : **Ms Lisa Amit patel [92%]**

ICSE Examination 2019 (Commerce):

Second Position : **Master Chintankumar Trilokram Pawar [74.7%]**

Third Position : **Master Aman Dhull [73.2%]**

Five students - Ms Arya Gopikrishnan, Master Harsh Vardhan, Master Maanav Kumarpal Shah, Ms Eve Saha and Ms Lisa Amit Patel scored centum in Geography. Four students - Master Kumaravel Harikaran, Master Harsh Vardhan, Master Shreyansh Agarwal and Ms Lisa Amit Patel achieved centum in Computer Applications. One student - Master Harsh Vardhan achieved centum in Chemistry. Well done!

Indian School Certificate Examination - March 2019 [Grades XI & XII, ISC]

The **Indian School Certificate (ISC)** examinations started on 5 February and ended on 18 March 2019.



Ms S Brindhaa

21 students from GSIS appeared for the ISC examinations. **19** students secured **distinction** and **2** were awarded **first class. 4 students scored above 90%.** The school has once again shown its academic prowess by a cent per cent pass.

ISC Examination 2019 (Science stream):

School Topper : **Ms S Brindhaa (93.2%)**

Second Position : **Ms R Sneha Nair (87.2%)**

Third Position : **Master Andrew Alex Kallivalappil (83%)**



Ms S Rooshni

ISC Examination 2019 (Commerce stream):

- School Topper** : **Ms S Rooshni (92.8%)**
 Second Position: **Master Aaryan Agrawal (92.2%)**
 Third Position : **Master Siddanth Narayan Lohiya (90.4%)**

The highlight of this year’s ISC results is that of **Ms S Rooshni** who scored cent percent (100%) in Economics.

Hearty **congratulations** to all the teachers and students who have worked hard to achieve commendable results.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme - May 2019 [Grades XI & XII, IB]

In May 2019, a total of **83** students of GSIS appeared for the IB examination. 81 candidates appeared for the IBDP and 2 candidates appeared for the IB Diploma Course. Good Shepherd International School produced one of the best results of all the years when 12 students scored 40 points and above in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme of the May 2019 session. **Master Aarya Robin Goenka** scored an enviable 44 points out of 45 points in the IBDP examinations 2019 and attained the pride of being the school topper.



Master Aarya Robin Goenka

Overview of the results:

Diploma Awarded	: 74 candidates
Diploma Course Certificates Awarded	: 7 candidates
Course Students	: 2
Average Diploma score of GSIS students	: 34 points
Highest Diploma score awarded to a GSIS candidate	: 44 points
Average grade of GSIS students who passed the diploma	: 5.1
Number of students who scored 40 points or above	: 12

School Topper : **Master Aarya Robin Goenka [44 points; five 7s & one 6]**

Second Position : Vijaya Lakshman Meka [43 points; four 7s & two 6s]

&

Dwij Dipak Patel [43 points; four 7s & two 6s]

Third Position : Prabhraj Singh Bhatia [41 points; three 7s & three 6s],
 Stavan Shailesh Patel [41 points; four 7s, one 6 & one 5]
 Prathmesh Fomra [41 points; three 7s & three 6s]

&

Muskaan Kanoi [41 points; three 7s & three 6s]

Two students (Vijaya Lakshman Meka and Dwij Dipak Patel) scored 43 points out of 45, four students (Prabhraj Singh Bhatia, Stavan Shailesh Patel, Prathmesh Fomra and Muskaan Kanoi) scored 41points, five students scored 40 points and two students scored 39 points. Of the nineteen subjects offered, there were 7s in thirteen subjects. Overall, there were fifty-one 7s. The lowest score in most subjects was 4. Fourteen students scored a 3 in the Theory of Knowledge/ Extended Essay combination, with sixteen scoring ‘A’s in Extended Essay and four scoring ‘A’s in Theory of Knowledge.

We thank the students, staff, parents, guardians and the learning community of Good Shepherd International School for the outstanding results of the IBDP May 2019 examinations.

Heartiest **congratulations** to each one of our young achievers and their proud parents!

Cambridge Lower Secondary Checkpoint Examination - April 2019

89 students of FM-2(Grade 8) took the Cambridge Lower Secondary Checkpoint examination held in the school from 15 April to 17 April 2019. The tests were conducted in **English Papers 1 & 2, Mathematics Papers 1 & 2 and Science Papers 1 & 2.**



Ms Devikaa Prashant Thakker

Ms Devikaa Prashant Thakker secured the **first position** scoring the highest possible **perfect score of 18 points**. She achieved the **highest possible score of 6 points each in English, Mathematics and Science.**

Second position : Master Adhik Raghuram [16.4 points]

Third position : Master Akhilesh Sai Bikina & Ms Panisra Sakulsacha [16.3 points each]

The highlights of the overall scores of our students in English, Mathematics and Science are shown below:

Overall scores	English	Mathematics	Science
6 out of 6	1	11	13
5 out of 6	2	17	31
4 out of 6	17	26	36

6 is the highest achievement level and 1 is the lowest.

82 students of FM-2(Grade 8) were evaluated also in Global Perspectives. Global Perspectives is an interdisciplinary, skills based programme. In Global Perspectives, the research reports submitted by the students were evaluated in order to measure their skill development. The highlights of the achievement levels of our students in Global Perspectives are mentioned below:

Achievement levels	Number of students
Gold	14
Silver	67
Bronze	1

Well done!

Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Tests - April 2019

Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Tests for students of Grade 6 was held in GSIS on 15, 16 & 17 April 2019. **41** students of Grade 6 from the Fernhill Campus appeared for the tests held in the Examination Hall at the Palada Campus.



Master Ronaal Sameer Patel

Master Ronaal Sameer Patel topped the batch of students with a score of **17.7 points**. He scored **5.7 points in English and the maximum of 6 points each in Mathematics and Science.**

Second position : Master Nihar Mohan Choudary Maddipati [17.4 points]

Third position : Master Ishanya Deepak Bassi [17.1 points]

The highlights of the overall scores of our students in English, Mathematics and Science are shown below:

Overall scores	English	Mathematics	Science
6 out of 6	2	4	11
5 out of 6	7	12	17
4 out of 6	5	11	4

35 students of Grade 6 were evaluated in Global Perspectives. The highlights of the achievement levels of our students in Global Perspectives are mentioned below:

Achievement levels	Number of students
Gold	1
Silver	34

Well done!

Trinity College London(TCL) Music Examinations 2018 & 2019

Our students took the TCL music examinations across nine levels from Initial to Grade 8.

TCL Practical Music (Classical) Examinations – November 2018

139 students participated in the **Practical Music (Classical) Examinations** conducted in GSIS from 26 November to 30 November 2018. **33** students achieved **Distinction**, **58** secured **Merit** and **39** were awarded **Pass** certificates.

TCL Rock and Pop Music Examinations – November 2018

63 students appeared in the **TCL Rock and Pop Music Examinations** conducted in GSIS from 27 November to 29 November 2018. **10** students achieved **Distinction**, **19** secured **Merit** and **22** were awarded **Pass** certificates.

TCL Theory of Music Examinations - November 2018

39 students of GSFS appeared for the **TCL Theory of Music Examinations** on 03 November 2018. **27** students achieved **Distinction**, **7** secured **Merit** and **5** were awarded **Pass** certificates.

TCL Theory of Music Examinations - May 2019

380 students of GSIS took the **TCL Theory of Music Examinations** that was held in May 2019. **178** students achieved **Distinction**, **112** secured **Merit** and **61** were awarded **Pass** certificates.

We are proud of the countless hours of study, training and hard work that the students and teachers have put in. Keep up the good work. **Congratulations!**

Cricket News...



Master Arnav Nalamothu

Master Arnav Nalamothu, FM 4D, represented the Nilgiris District Cricket Association under-16 team, which participated in the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) Inter-District Cricket Tournament for **P R Thevar Trophy** held at Dindigul on 7th, 8th and 9th of June 2019.

Well done!

GSIS holds Orientation for New Students

Fernhill Campus

The students and staff of Good Shepherd International School, Fernhill, organised an 'Icebreaker Party' on Saturday, 27 July 2019, to warmly welcome all the new students who enrolled for the academic year 2019-2020. The occasion took place in the presence of Senior Vice President, **Mrs Elsamma Thomas**, Senior Vice Principal, **Mrs Sheila Alexander** and Director of Counselling, **Mrs Anila Mathew**.



Performance by new students in the Fernhill Campus: students singing



A dance performance



Students enjoying an icebreaking session



Students in a pyramid formation

Various games such as 'Chain Twirl', 'Memory', 'Find the Shoe' and 'Hop the Hoop' were played quite enthusiastically by the new students. The students' choir performed the song 'Show a little bit of love and kindness' and made the students and teachers groove. The students also brought together two energetic dance numbers chosen and choreographed by themselves. Apart from the cultural programme, two students, **Ms Kyna Gulia**, Games Captain, and **Master R S Adithya**, Autumn House Captain, volunteered to speak to their new friends about their experience. Both students inspired the newcomers and had them look forward to all the activities our school has to offer. The whole programme was charted out and organised by **Master Khush Milan Patel**, Games Captain, with the help of his teachers. Master Khush was also the Master of Ceremonies for the show. The students were left exhilarated and excited by the end of the programme.

Palada Campus

On Saturday, 27 July 2019, one hundred and one newly admitted students were given a hearty welcome in the form of an orientation in the auditorium. It was an ideal way to break the ice and bridge the gaps. The event was a platform to interact with each other, find common grounds and most importantly display their talents.

GSIS is truly a home away from home. Warmth and comfort can be found in every corner of this school. The programme commenced with the school prayer led by the Director of Counselling, **Mrs Anila Ann Mathew**. The welcome address was delivered by **Ms Madhumitha Ashwin**, IB-1B. **Master Vrishi Kalpesh Vaghani**, IB-1D, **Ms Aryana Anoop Chemmannur**,

FM-1A and **Master Naman Pradeep Agarwal**, IB-1C, touched our hearts with their melodious solo songs. **Ms Simran Nimish Makvana**, FM-3A, demonstrated her steady and stable karate moves, leaving the audience in complete awe. **Ms Tanisha Kharkia**, IB-1A, made **Michael Jackson** proud by playing one of his most remembered songs, *Beat It*, on the drums. **Master Shashwat Anand Agrawal**, 7B and **Master Harsha Mandula**, FM-1C, very sweetly shared their personal experiences in the form of a speech. **Ms Hemangini Vinkle Chawla**, FM-2A, **Master Daksh Agarwal**, FM-2D, and **Master Tanishq Agarwal**, IB-1D, played some beautiful pieces on the guitar. **Ms Srinithi Jayavel**, 8A, **Ms Simone Agarwal**, FM-3A, **Ms Angel Jose**, FM-3A and **Master Abhishek Krishnan**, IB-1D, set the stage on fire by presenting a variety of dances from *Bharatnatyam* to *Hip Hop* to *Bollywood*. The music department then impressed the audience by performing a mashup of *Rolling in the Deep* and *O Re Piya*. The Ice-breaker game, “Bombing the House” conducted by the counsellors, channelized a lot of energy amongst the students, leaving echoes of giggles and chuckles all over the hall. The Vote of Thanks was given by **Ms Riddhi Agarwal**, IB-1B, and the whole event was smoothly hosted by **Ms Aditi Rijhwani**, IB-1A. The highlight of this orientation definitely was the end when all the one hundred and one new students sang *Count on Me* as a choir for the finale.

Organizing such an event with children from different corners of the world has created a candid, exquisite and beautiful atmosphere. The Senior Vice Principal (Academics), **Mrs Sheila Alexander**, reaffirmed the homeliness by spreading immense love throughout the auditorium through her kind words towards all the students and teachers. That was without a doubt a happy ending to a magical evening.



The music department singing a remix of 'Rolling in the Deep' and 'O Re Piya'



New students of Palada Campus during the orientation programme



Master Shashwat Anand Agrawal, 7B and Master Harsha Vardhan Chowdhary Aluri, 7B, sharing their personal experiences



Ms Tanisha Kharkia, IB-1A, playing the drums



Ms Simran Nimish Makvana, FM-3A, showing her karate moves



Ms Japjee Kaur, FM-1A, and Ms Yashvi Maheshbhai Gajera, FM-1A, showing their dance moves



New girls dancing: Ms Simone Agarwal, FM-3A and Ms Angel Jose, FM-3A



The choir of new students singing the song, 'Count on Me'

Raksha Bandhan Celebrated



Celebration of brother-sister relationship

Students of Fernhill Campus, Palada Campus and GSFS celebrated **Raksha Bandhan** - the brother-sister festival - on Thursday, 15 August 2019.

On this auspicious day, girls who have brothers studying in the school, met them in the Palada Campus and tied rakhi (protection thread) around their wrists. The festival is observed as a symbol of duty between brothers and sisters. This festival that highlights the bond and beautiful relationship between brothers and sisters was celebrated at GSIS with much fervour and gusto.

Dance Training and Performance

“Come Fairies, take me out of this dull world, for I would ride with you upon the wind and dance upon the mountains like a flame!”

- William Butler Yeats



Grades 2&3: The tiny tots of Junior Campus danced to the song, ‘Naina Da Kya Kasoor’



Grades 4,5 & 6 girls: The Junior School girls danced a Jazz funk dance in a diva-like dance style



Grade 7 boys performed to a peppy song – ‘Aala Re Aala’



Grades 7 & 8 girls performed an energetic dance to the tune of the song, ‘Mi Gente’

Instructors from **Naresh Kathak Entertainment (NKE)** conducted a workshop for the students of Good Shepherd International School from 22 July to 28 July 2019. Instructors of this dance troupe are trained in different styles of dance like *Kathak, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Jazz and Bollywood*. The members of this troupe train celebrities, shake their legs with leading actors in Hindi movies, participate in award shows and other dance performances.

The students were exposed to different styles of dance forms in the workshop which lasted for one week. The students of all grades put up an outstanding performance in the stadium on 28 July. The performance began with the Grade 8 boys dancing to *Let me love you* in the Hip Hop style, followed by Grade 9 boys performing to the song *Yeah* by **Usher**. The tiny tots of Fernhill enthralled the audience with a peppy number in Bollywood jazz funk - *Naina Da Kya Kasoor* and to a Hip hop number. Next was an energetic dance, *Mi Gente*, by Grade 7 & 8 girls. There was also a performance by the ladies of Good Shepherd Finishing School, dancing to the Bollywood Bhangra number *Morni*. Grade 9 and 11 girls mesmerized the audience with a fusion of classical and hip hop dance styles to the remix song *Dola Re Bola*. The spectacular show ended with the final performance by Grade 7 boys to a foot-tapping song – *Aala Re Aala*.

The five instructors – Mr Naresh Kathak, Mr Amit Nair, Mr Vibhakar Rai, Ms Sridevi Gauri Murthy and Ms Divya Bisht, were introduced to the audience and thanked by **Mr Dominic Jude Hurst**, Director of Activities, for their efforts in guiding and training the students.



Grade 8 boys danced to the song, 'Let Me Love You', in Hip Hop form of dance



Grades 9 & 11 girls danced to the tune of a remix song, 'Dola Re Bola'



Boys of Grade 11 performed to the song, 'International Love', in Hip Hop style



The ladies of GSFS performed a Bollywood Bhangra dance to the tune of the song 'Morni Banke'

3rd State-level Tennis Tournament 2019

The 3rd State-level Tennis Tournament for under-12 and 14 boys and girls was held in Coonoor from 7 May to 8 May 2019.



Pranav Natarajan



Ashley R S



Kanupriya Vinkle Chawla



Nitya Nilesh Dhanani

The following students of GSIS won prizes:

S. No.	Names of students	Class	Category	Position
1	Pranav Natarajan	FM-1B	Under-12	3rd Place
2	Ruthran Duraisamy	FM-3B	Under-14 Doubles	3rd Place
	Uddhav Beriwalla	10B		
3	Ashley R S	8A	Under-14	3rd Place
4	Kanupriya Vinkle Chawla	FM-4A	Under-14	3rd Place
5	Nitya Nilesh Dhanani	FM-4A	Under-14	2nd Place

Congratulations!

Nilgiris District Table Tennis Tournament 2019

The **Nilgiris District Table Tennis Tournament** was held on Saturday, 17 August 2019, at the Kerala Samajam, Coonoor, under the aegis of the Nilgiris Table Tennis Association (NTTA). Students of GSIS exhibited a good performance as mentioned below:

S. No.	Names of students	Class	Category	Position
1	Nirmit Agarwal	FM-2D	Sub-Junior (U-14)	Runner-up
2	Adhithya R S	6E	Cadet (U-12)	Runner-up
3	Khush Milan Patel	6C	Cadet (U-12)	3rd Place
4	Thota Hemanya Chowdary	6A	Cadet (U-12)	4th Place



GSIS Table Tennis team seen along with the TT coach

Congratulations!

Inter School Quiz Competition



Master Sriniketh Krishnan



Master Kumaravel Harikaran

The school participated in **Quiz-Zical 2019**, an Inter School quiz event which was organized by the Alumni Association of St. Joseph's College, Coonoor, in SJC auditorium on 3 August 2019.

The team of **Master Sriniketh Krishnan**, IB-2B, and **Master Kumaravel Harikaran**, ISC-1A, of GSIS **secured the second place** in the competition. Twelve schools from Nilgiris district participated in the event.

Congratulations!

GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL

Ballroom Dance Workshop



The GSFS students seen along with the dance instructor and his team



GSFS girls during the training session

Dancing is one of the most inspiring forms of art. It could serve as a powerful stressbuster for children. In the olden times, ballroom dancing was social dancing for the privileged. Modern ballroom dance has its roots in the early 20th century. Ballroom dances are normally performed to the rhythm of western music, and couples dance counter-clockwise around a rectangular floor following the line of dance.

From 7th August to 12th August 2019, a **Ballroom Dance Workshop** was organized for the 3 months' and 9 months' batch of girls at Good Shepherd Finishing School. The dance instructor, **Mr Prithviraj** and his team trained the students in ballroom dance lessons, including *Cha-cha-cha*, *Jive* and *Salsa*. Throughout the session, the girls got acquainted with different forms of ballroom dancing and practiced them. The session helped the girls to find the song in their heart and the beat in their feet as they developed a new passion for life through dance.

At the end of the training sessions, a ballroom dance competition was organized to evaluate the dance skill acquisition of the girls. Dancers were judged by diverse criteria such as poise, the hold, posture, expression, timing, body alignment, floor craft, foot and leg action and presentation. The students whose names are mentioned below were adjudged the winners:

3 months' batch:

1st Place - Ms Roshni Patel and Ms Vidhula Bharani

2nd Place - Ms Riya Agarwal and Ms Ashwini Miskin & Ms Dheekshitha and Ms Aishwaria

3rd Place - Ms Riya Agarwal and Ms Niyati Jain



Ms Roshni Patel and Ms Vidhula Bharani



Ms Pranidhi Jain and Ms Riddhi Bhandari

9 months' batch:

1st Place - Ms Pranidhi Jain and Ms Riddhi Bhandari

2nd Place - Ms Pulotoli Yepthomi and Ms Rishika Satish

3rd Place - Ms Kavya Gangadhar and Ms Vishakha Solanki

Well done!

Dance is a form of art and a universal language that may transcend cultural boundaries and species. It is also a form of exercise and a liberating recreational fun activity.

"Dance is an art, paint your dream and follow it."

- Steven Thompson