



# INDUS VALLEY WORLD SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER (JULY – OCTOBER 2020)

# FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

It is with mixed emotions that I write this message. On the one hand it is that time of the year when the sky is azure and the evening air is redolent with the fragrance of *chhatim* – our spirits begin to soar. Yet, the unadulterated joy that the pujas bring every year is mixed this year with an underlying sense of apprehension and uncertainty.

The question that has become a refrain is “When will schools reopen?” No one has the answer yet. What we do know is, in the meanwhile, we at IVWS have been doing our best to ensure that children continue to learn from the safety of their homes. We have left no stone unturned to ensure that we adhere to the academic calendar as planned – the First Periodic Assessment and Half Yearly examinations were successfully held across all levels. We have organized a series of lectures and interactive sessions with eminent scholars to enrich the learning experience of the senior students, while broadening their understanding of career options that the volatile and complex world of the present times has thrown up. The Juniors have been kept busy with a plethora of activities to raise their learning quotient.

We continue to miss the in-person interactions with our children and while we are all eagerly waiting to once again experience the hustle – bustle of the school corridors, there is much that we are thankful for. In spite of glitches, technology and the web have opened up a veritable treasure trove of resources, helping us to make teaching – learning effective and vibrant. There have been an unbelievable range of opportunities for children of all ages to participate in activities to showcase their talents and to hone their skills in creative ways. Our children do us proud in so many ways!

We are deeply grateful to the School Management for its support through these difficult times and to the parents who have extended their cooperation in so many ways and have never failed to appreciate the herculean efforts of our teachers.

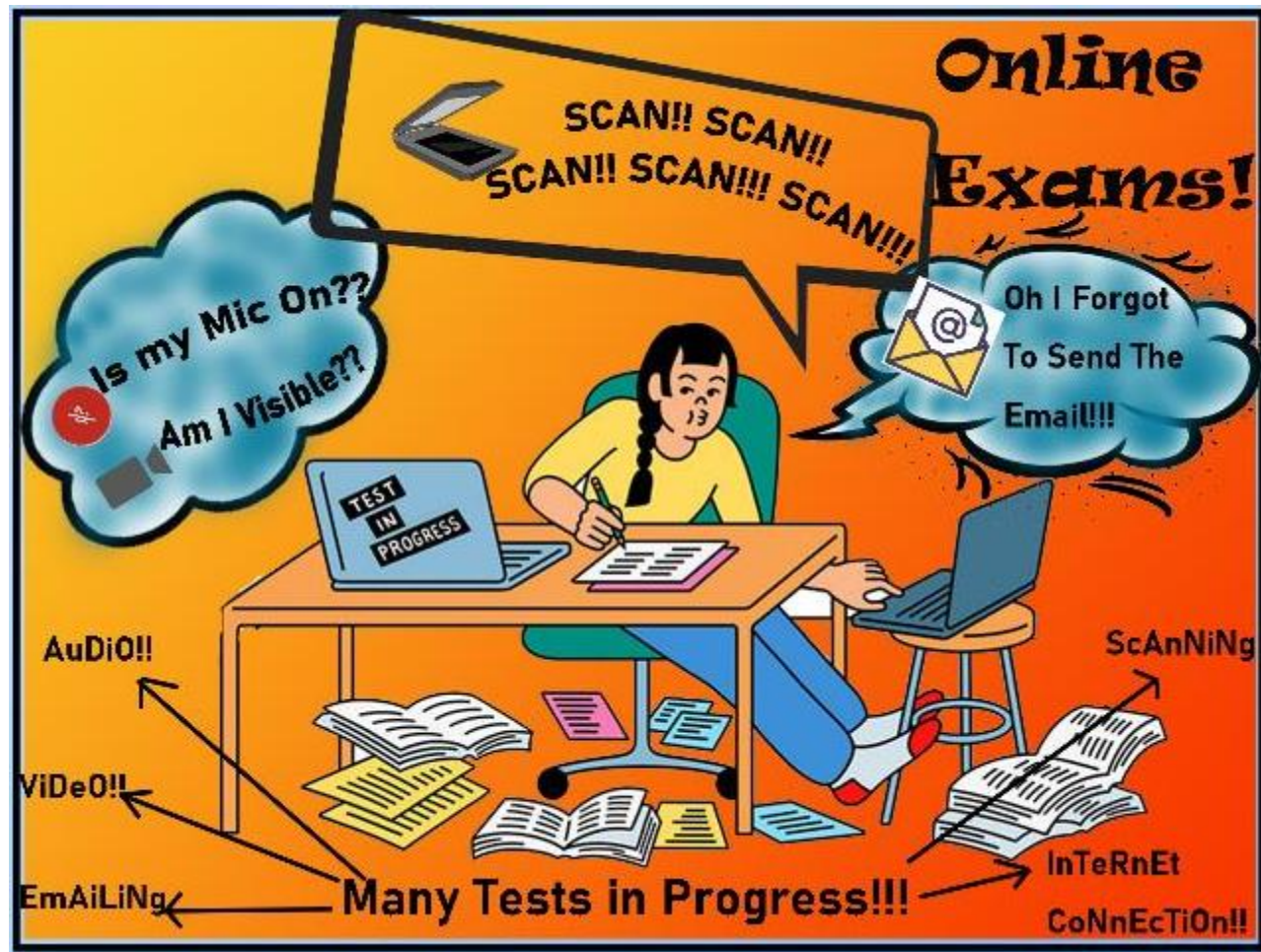
May the festive season bring peace to the hearts and homes of the IVWS family. You are always in our prayers – stay safe... stay well.

Amita Prasad



## STUDENTS SPEAK

Whereas parents were very happy that we were holding (online) examinations as scheduled in our academic calendar, students did not quite feel the same way! Here is Vihaan Chari's (of Grade VIII) take on examinations...







On 13<sup>th</sup> July and 15<sup>th</sup> July respectively, the CBSE announced the results of the Board examinations of Classes XII and X. Our students did us proud! Kudos to the hard work and untiring efforts of the IVWS teachers!

## RESULTS – CBSE EXAMINATIONS 2020



On 1st August 2020, students who excelled in the AISSCE and AISSE examinations 2020 were felicitated in an online ceremony in the presence of their parents and faculty members of IVWS. Professor Anuradha Lohia, Vice Chancellor Presidency University, was the Chief Guest on this occasion. After a brief invocation dance presented by the teachers, Professor Lohia addressed the students. Our young achievers were greatly inspired by her as she encouraged them to pursue their passions and follow their hearts, rather than fall into the trap of senseless competition. She also stressed on the need to be respectful to teachers, to be responsible and confident.

## **FELICITATION OF TOPPERS – CBSE EXAMINATIONS 2020**



## ADDRESS BY DR. RUDRANGSHU MUKHERJEE

On 14th August 2020, to commemorate the centenary of Gandhi's Non-Cooperation Movement, Dr Rudrangshu Mukherjee, renowned historian and Chancellor of Ashoka University, addressed the students of Grades X, XI & XII.

In his talk Dr Mukherjee traced the early career of Gandhi in South Africa, his evolution as a leader in India and his remarkable philosophy based on truth and ahimsa. The address was followed by an interesting question - answer session which brought out the relevance and importance of Gandhi's ideas in the present day.

It was a brilliant session which left everyone with plenty of food for thought on the eve of our Independence Day.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

To commemorate the International Day of Peace on 21st September 2020, IVWS organized a special talk for the students of Grades XI & XII about the importance of peace in the present times. The students and teachers were addressed by Ms. Dayita Datta, a renowned History and English teacher with over 40 years of teaching experience in La Martiniere for Girls, Kolkata and Welham Girls' School, Dehradun. She is also the first Indian to have won the BBC Mastermind show.

Our students were privileged to listen to her as she traced the history of conflicts over time and highlighted the crying need for peace in the present. The talk ended with an interactive session where the students asked a number of extremely relevant questions. Everyone was left with plenty of food for thought.



**INTERNATIONAL  
DAY OF PEACE  
2020**



# ACADEMIC LECTURES



## ADDRESS BY PROF SWAGATA BHATTACHARJEE

On 24th July, Economics students were invited to attend a workshop conducted by Prof Swagata Bhattacharjee of Ashoka University entitled 'New waves in Economics – Advances in Behavioural and Experimental Economics'. A Ph. D. from the University of Texas at Austin, Prof Bhattacharjee is a specialist in Applied Microeconomic Theory and Experimental Economics. She made the students aware how Economics has reinvented itself to meet the demands of the present age.

## MASTER CLASS ON CRITICAL THINKING

Prof. Ninad Patwardhan conducted a master class on Critical Thinking for students of Grades XI and XII on 25<sup>th</sup> September. A Ph.D. in Humanities and Social Sciences (Psychology) from IIT, Bombay, it was an extremely thought – provoking session which made students understand the importance of being able to think 'out of the box'.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE WORKSHOP

On 30<sup>th</sup> September, our Computer Science students attended a workshop entitled 'CS + X - Unlocking the New Computer Science'. The resource person was Prof Debayan Gupta, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, Ashoka University. A Ph.D. from Yale University, Prof Gupta specializes in cyber security and cryptography, among many other fields of interest.



# ACADEMIC LECTURES





On 12th July, 65 students from Grades VI-VIII enjoyed a Sunday morning with a difference. They were engaged in a two-hour workshop with Aditi Jhunjhunwala, an expert in design communication.

The design consultant introduced the children to the magic of designing digitally and taught them the use of several free applications available online to nurture their creativity. She also shared with the children different design tools that can be used to enhance online projects and presentations and to make infographics, posters and cards.

The students were really excited and they started experimenting with the tools during the workshop itself! It was a hands-on fun session which helped children think “out of the box” and gave them several helpful tips to enhance their design skills.

## DESIGN THINKING WORKSHOP





Est: 1966

## INTER SCHOOL DEBATE COMPETITION

On 5th August, Choutisha Chakraborty and Himaghna Roy of Grade X represented the school in the online Draupadi Devi Khaitan Memorial Inter School Debate Competition hosted by B D M International.

The topic of the debate was interesting and relevant – “This House believes that Competition is a necessary part of the Education Process” and our young debaters spoke with conviction and confidence.

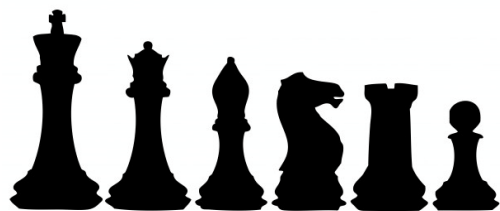
## ART & DESIGN FEST

In the month of August, the Assam Valley School organized their Annual Art & Design Fest 'Srijanyam 2020'. Several of our students from Middle and Senior School participated in various events – Photography – both Junior and Senior categories; Digital Imaging (Junior Category) and Portrait Sketching (Senior category).

Brinda Banerjee of Grade XI did us proud by winning the Runner-Up position in the Portrait Painting category where participants from 40 schools from India and abroad were competing. We are very proud of her achievement and we are sure there will be many more laurels coming her way.



## INTER-SCHOOL COMPETITIONS



## INTER SCHOOL YOUNG CHAMPIONS DEBATE COMPETITION

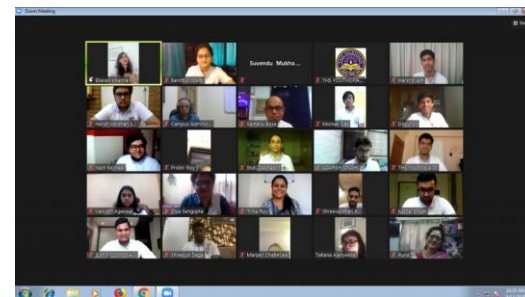
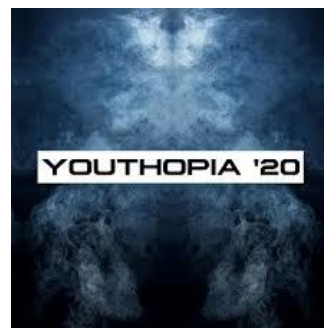
On 29th August, the top city schools participated in the online Debate Competition organised by the Calcutta Debating Circle. Our two-member team of Himaghna Roy (Grade X) and Debojyoti Mishra (Grade XI) qualified for the finals. In a keenly contested war of words on the topic "The school system should encourage free thinking, not memorization" team IVWS placed 3rd. Kudos to them!

## INTER SCHOOL CHESS TOURNAMENT

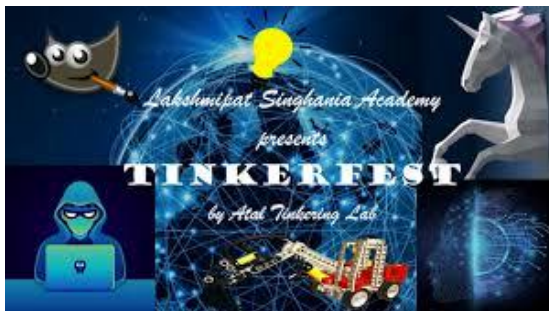
ON 29th August, 17 schools took part in a Chess tournament organised by B D M International School. We had 8 students participating from our school. Our Junior and Middle School students from Grades IV-VIII did us proud in their first major Inter School competition.

## INTER SCHOOL FEST

On 12th & 13th September, the Senior students from Grades IX - XII participated in 'Youthopia 2020' – the Inter School fest organized by The Heritage School. Over two days our students participated in a number of events like Painting, Debate, Eastern Dance, Treasure Hunt, Film making, Sports and Fitness and more. Our dance team from Grade X did us proud by placing 3rd in the keenly contested Eastern Dance event. Congratulations to them!



# INTER-SCHOOL COMPETITIONS



## TINKER FEST

From 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July, five students from the Senior School participated in an online Technology Fest, organised by Lakshmipat Singhanian Academy. In an attempt to facilitate the creative learning process, the entire programme was structured through a series of workshops curated by professionals from various parts of the country along with competitions related to Ethical Hacking, 3D Design, Photo Editor, Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, Entrepreneurship and Innovation and CAD. Our students enjoyed themselves thoroughly and Mayank Banerjee of Grade IX placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 3-D Designing Workshop from among 40 participants.

## EXE.BIT 2020

The annual I.T. Fest organized by Lakshmipat Singhanian Academy was held from 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> August. Our students from the Senior Secondary section participated in a variety of events related to the theme “Combining Technology with Empathy”. Our students enjoyed their time greatly and made the most of the learning experience.



# INTER-SCHOOL COMPETITIONS



We organized a series of webinars to inform our senior students about different career options and help them shape the road map ahead by introducing them to various education opportunities. These workshops were organized with renowned faculty members from higher education and industry professionals.

On 29<sup>th</sup> September, students of the Senior Secondary classes had an enjoyable and informative session with faculty members of the IAM Institute of Hotel Management as they were treated to a live demonstration of culinary art by a master chef. Students also had an opportunity to explore career options in the growing hospitality industry.

The Indian Institute of Art and Design, in partnership with Kingston School of Art, London, conducted a workshop on "Light and Spaces" on 30<sup>th</sup> September. It was a fascinating session as the resource person used simple A4 paper to create three-dimensional images playing with light and shade. Students were introduced to careers in the field of Design and the Fashion industry.

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Dr Rajeev Tiwari, a specialist in Wireless Networks, Big Data Analytics, Computer Architecture and Machine Learning, conducted a webinar on 5<sup>th</sup> October for our Computer Science students on the topic '**CLOUD: BACKBONE TO COMPUTING, DEVICES AND DATA FOR BUSINESS**'.



**CAREERS @ IVWS**



**One of the problems faced by High School students these days is choosing careers that match their skills and aptitudes. Most often, children are confused and need help with making well – informed choices. IVWS offered a career guidance programme to the students of Grades 9 – 12 – all charges of which were borne by the school.**

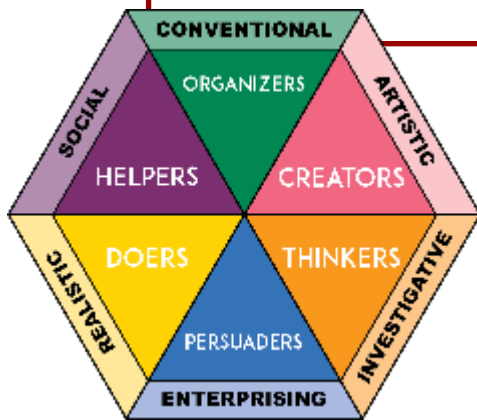
**The programme was conducted by “AIM2EXCEL”, an organization that has impacted 12000+ children from 80+ schools and has been developed with researchers from U C Berkeley, NYU, JNU, IIT-Delhi and NID.**

**This programme comprised 2 parts:**

- An orientation webinar for students and their parents
- Online psychometric assessments of all participating students covering (1) Cognitive Intelligence (2) Emotional Intelligence (3) Social Intelligence (4) Interest (5) Personality and (6) Motivation

**A detailed PDF report was shared with the participants containing an overview of the talents and strengths of the student, Best-fit Careers / Streams, Learning Styles and Study Habits and a Development Plan. A webinar was held to address the queries of the participants.**

It was an extremely informative programme. We are confident it will help students in selecting the different career options open to them.



# CAREER CONSELLING @ IVWS

Our teachers have ensured that the little children continue to learn from the safety of their homes. Here you can see them using simple household objects such as grains and dough to develop hand – eye coordination, invaluable at this age, and to learn valuable skills of sequencing as they play. Role play is also an important part of their activities as it helps to develop their speaking skills and their self – confidence.



## PRE PRIMARY ACTIVITIES

Our teachers have engaged the little ones in the Pre-Primary classes in a wide variety of activities. Here are just a few glimpses of the delightful work of the children as they celebrate Onam and Vishwakarma Puja in their own unique way!



**PRE PRIMARY ACTIVITIES**



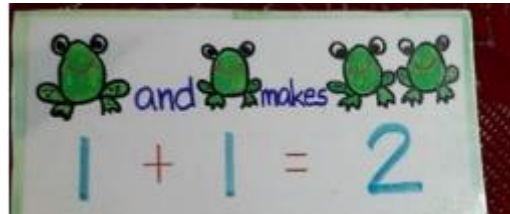
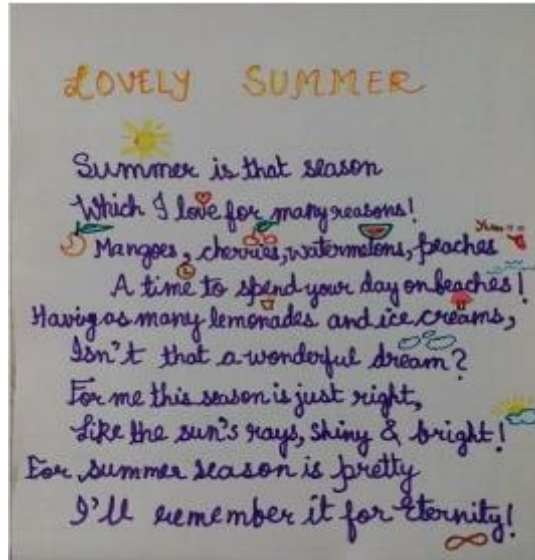
Please notice the intense concentration of the youngest members of our school as they are engaged in creative endeavours. Kudos to their teachers for guiding them as well as to their parents for their cooperation and support.



## PRE PRIMARY ACTIVITIES



**The Juniors have been following a very rich curriculum despite the limitations of online classes. They have engaged in academic lessons alongside a plethora of activities including yoga, dance, music, chess, martial arts, art and craft, aerobics, sports and many others. Here are a few highlights...**



## JUNIOR ACTIVITIES



On 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020, students of Grade V attended an awareness building webinar on e-waste management. It was an extremely enriching experience as it helped sensitize children towards their responsibility to protect the environment.

Stories teach us about life and create a world of fantasy. It is one of the most effective techniques to teach children life lessons, vocabulary and reading strategies.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July, children of Grades 1 and 2 got an opportunity to be a part of enriching story - telling sessions organized by Scholastic India Pvt Ltd and led by their facilitator Ms. Chitrlekha Bhaskar.

She narrated a delightful story - 'THE GREAT STORY TELLER' to the children of Grade 1 whereas Grade 2 was treated to the 'BLUE JACKAL'.

She introduced the stories by asking a few questions and the children responded enthusiastically. New words were discussed with the children to help them enrich their vocabulary. It was a wonderful learning experience for the children as they were attentive and eagerly listened to the stories and followed the instructions of the resource person.

The children (as well as the adults!) thoroughly enjoyed the sessions.

## STORY TELLING SESSIONS – GRADES 1 & 2

## E – WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP – GRADE V






The school celebrates October 1 as the Day for Older Persons. This year the students of the Pre-Primary & Primary sections of the school set up a “date” with their grandparents. Students were provided a list of several activities to choose from.


Children shared special moments with their grandparents as they cooked, sang, danced and recited poems with them. Some children even wrote beautiful letters to their grandparents who are no longer with them. This was an attempt by the school to act as a trigger for the students to be engaged with their grandparents in a sustained manner.



**GRANDPARENTS' DAY –  
PRE PRIMARY - GRADE V**



My husband joins me to appreciate the amount of care you are imparting to our child through the online system. We are amazed with the progress we see in his learning curve. Honestly we were a bit sceptical as to how children would respond and learn through this new normal of online teaching at the age of 5 / 6 years. You have made the classes so interesting and enjoyable that we are glad and happy that our child is at the right place under the guidance of the best teachers. Thanks once again.  
A parent - Grade 1



Dear Ma'am

This mail is just to thank you for all the patience and forbearance with which you and your team members are taking the classes through the pandemic.

The arrangements to make each class purposeful and successful which must be as challenging for you at the home environment in the absence of the equipment that you would be accustomed to, and yet, due to your tireless efforts, each class is conducted in a manner that is interesting and the children are getting more and more involved in the curriculum each passing day.

A parent - Lower Infants A

Dear Ma'am


I am just writing today to appreciate your efforts towards the online classes.

The efforts put in by the teachers is commendable. I am really happy with the way the teachers conduct the classes and pay attention to each and every child present and the way you have turned your houses into a mini school just to provide a good experience for the children.

The worksheets, the activities planned, all are done in a way which is really worthy of praise. I must tell you that my son always keeps waiting for more worksheets because he loves doing them and also for your mails with the stars and smileys. He looks forward to his online classes every day.

Once again, a heartfelt thanks to the school.

A parent - upper Infants A



Respected Madam,

It is our immense pleasure that our son is growing up under your guidance, leadership & control. During this situation too, IVWS Online Classes are giving us a wonderful experience with the touch of disciplined coaching given by all teachers. I am staying away from my family because of my job, but we are fortunate that through this entire period we were well supported by IVWS continuing Classes in an organized manner. Heartful thanks to the Teacher for understanding children.

Many thanks.

A parent - Grade 2

**PARENTS SPEAK**





## SANMARG AWARD

Indus Valley World School was adjudged the best CBSE school by SANMARG, the popular newspaper, at a grand felicitation ceremony held on 29th August 2020. Congratulations to the management, staff and students of IVWS!

## MICROSOFT SHOWCASE SCHOOL

Indus Valley World School was recognized as a Showcase School by Microsoft Education. We are delighted that the school is part of an elite group that exemplify the best of teaching and learning in the world today.



## SCHOLASTIC AWARDS 2020

The All India Scholastic Writing Awards 2020 are given to students for outstanding original works in English in the category of fiction or short story writing.

Tannistha Nandi of Grade IX A has placed ninth in the Scholastic Writing Awards 2020. She holds the highest rank in the whole of Eastern India. We are really proud of her achievement. Congratulations!



# AWARDS AND ACCOLADES



**Manovikas Kendra is one of the leading research and rehabilitation institutes that works with children with special needs. In August 2020, IVWS teachers helped to train the teachers at Manovikas Kendra in modern teaching methodology – especially techniques that can be used during online classes. It was a wonderful experience for both the mentors and the mentees.**

**This is what the teachers from MVK had to say...**

We want to thank you and all the other teachers of Indus valley World School for allowing the teachers from Manovikas Kendra to join your online classes in the month of August 2020. The teachers attended several classes for various subject and topics, which enabled them to understand the methods and practices that are being employed to make virtual teaching more effective, enjoyable and efficient. We are extremely thankful that you provided this opportunity for our teachers.

The interactions were of great benefit to the teachers who will try their best to implement what they have learnt, while conducting their own classes. We hope that our students will learn better with these new methods.

Dr Anamika Sinha, Director MVK



**COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
@ IVWS**





IDHIKA HOTA – X

KRRISH DOSHI – IX



MEDHA DEY - XI



# LOCKDOWN CREATIVITY



DEEPA CHOUDHARY - VIII





**SHRIISH SUPRATIK - IX**

**ADITYA SAMANTA- IX**



**VANSHIKA SINGH - VII**

**TOSHAN CHAKRABORTY - IX**



**PRARTHNA PRUSTY - X**



**LOCKDOWN CREATIVITY**





**SURJO MITRA - XII**

**AARUSH PATEL - VII**



**MADHUPEE BHAUMIK -VIII**



**RAKSHITA BUCHA JAIN - XII**

**MRITIKA PAUL - VIII**



# **LOCKDOWN CREATIVITY**



इषुबेठ  
*Paradiya*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COVER DESIGN: IDHIKA HOTA – GRADE 10

COMPILATION: MS PRIYADARSHINEE GUHA