

The DP Chronicle: September Edition

Focus on the goal: Clarity. Consistency. Resilience



From the DP Coordinator's Desk

Empowering IBDP Learners at Vishwashanti Gurukul World School

At Vishwashanti Gurukul World School, writing is more than an academic requirement—it is a medium for critical thinking, creativity, and self-expression. In the IB Diploma Programme, our educators are committed to empowering students to become confident, reflective, and effective writers.

Highlights from the IBDP journey so far:

- **Examinations:** The recent assessments were conducted smoothly. Our new DP1 students experienced their first IBDP home examinations, while DP2 students worked diligently to achieve strong grades, ensuring predicted grades and future placements reflect their hard work.
- **Future Planning:** We are in the process of registering DP2 students for the May 2026 examinations. Close monitoring of submissions and continuous guidance by our dedicated team is ongoing to ensure every student stays on track.

- Learning Support: Our strategies include a supportive learning environment, mentor texts and exemplars, technology integration, constructive feedback, and student voice and choice—all designed to foster independent, thoughtful, and creative learners.

Motivational Note:

"Dream big, work hard, and make it happen." – Every step of effort counts toward shaping a successful future.

Through these approaches, our IBDP learners are not just academically prepared—they are equipped to communicate effectively, think independently, and thrive in a global context.

Warm regards

Jaya Shahi
DP Coordinator
Vishwashanti Gurukul



Candle-Making CAS Activity: Light a Candle, Brighten a Life

In the afternoon of Saturday, 13th September, the DP block was laced with the lush fragrance of lavender and melted wax, as the DP 1 students engaged in a CAS activity, Candle Making - “Light a Candle, Brighten a Life.”

In batches of six to seven, students nurtured their individual glass jars, carefully sticking into them delicate candle wicks, before proceeding to the next steps of heating, dyeing and pouring liquid wax. For a few hours, students braved the unfamiliar feeling of hardened wax of varying shades of pink, white, and blue, coated on their fingertips.

Under the supervision of Ms. Sudhi Gupta, the students of DP 1 demonstrated enthusiasm towards the entire process, conceiving of innovative designs for the candles, and conjuring up bizarre fusions of dyes of varying colors. Commendably, they displayed responsibility and present-mindedness in the handling of electrical equipments involved in the heating and pouring of wax.

The fruits of their efforts were evident; as the afternoon drew to an end, the table, initially strewn with untouched glass jars, unopened candle wicks, and unheated soya wax, was now adorned with presentations of students’ creativity an assortment of glass candle jars of all color combinations and designs, assembled together for cooldown.

Not only did the DP 1 students demonstrate initiative, ingenuity, and participation, they also made clear their dedication towards serving their community. These candles, made with immense eagerness, would be sold at a counter at future school events, the proceedings of which would go towards supporting a significant cause.

Thus, with lavender scented clothes, wax-sticky fingers, and smiling faces, DP 1 concluded a productive afternoon of candle-making, successfully combining creativity with service.

-By Chandni Bhatia (DP 1 student)



The Art of Beautiful Writing: Calligraphy Workshop for DP Students

As part of the Creativity strand of CAS, a Calligraphy Workshop was organized on Saturday, 13th September for DP1 and DP2 students. The session was facilitated by Prof. Sutirtha De from Alliance University, an expert in calligraphy and typography.

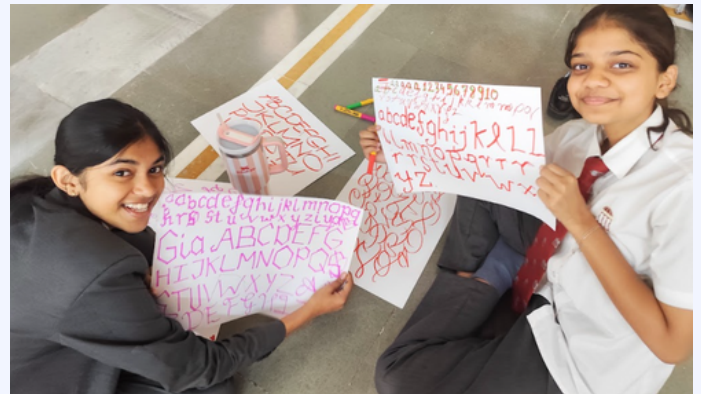
The workshop began with an engaging introduction to the history of calligraphy, exploring the origins of letters and the many styles of writing that have evolved over centuries. Prof. De then demonstrated essential techniques such as slants, curves, and letter formations, inspiring students to experiment with their own writing.

Students enthusiastically participated in hands-on practice. While some explored slants and strokes with calligraphy pens, others worked with colored papers and crafted letter cuttings in a calligraphic style, blending writing with art and design. This allowed them to experience calligraphy not only as a writing form but also as a creative craft.

Spending their Saturday morning immersed in this artistic pursuit, all DP1 and DP2 students expressed joy and pride in learning a new skill. The workshop not only enhanced their creativity but also encouraged perseverance, focus, and self-expression key aspects of the IB CAS journey.

Through this activity, students achieved meaningful CAS learning outcomes such as developing new skills (LO2), demonstrating commitment and perseverance (LO4), and exploring creative expression in a collaborative setting (LO5).

The morning was a beautiful reminder that art, in any form, nurtures both creativity and discipline skills that enrich the students' holistic learning journey.



Unlocking the Future of Medicine: Dr. Jeremy Brown Inspires DP Students

On September 16, our DP 1 and DP 2 students were privileged to attend a dynamic and thought-provoking session led by Dr. Jeremy Brown, a distinguished faculty member from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University, UK. The session, titled “Genetic Risk and Therapies”, transported students into the cutting-edge world of genetic medicine and its role in transforming the way we understand and treat inherited diseases.

Highlights from the Session

- Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) – Introduction to Zolgensma, the world’s most expensive drug, offering hope through gene replacement therapy.
- Mitochondrial Disease & ‘Three-Parent Babies’ – Insights into mitochondrial donation, a technique preventing the inheritance of faulty mitochondrial DNA.
- Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) – Exploration of therapies restoring mRNA function to improve muscle protein production.
- Sickle Cell Disease – Promise of CRISPR gene-editing to correct the genetic mutation behind this life-limiting condition.
- Down Syndrome – Understanding the genetic basis, while promoting empathy, inclusion, and scientific awareness.

Dr. Brown’s session offered our students a real-world glimpse into the future of personalized medicine, sparking curiosity, empathy, and a spirit of inquiry. We extend our sincere gratitude to Newcastle University for this enriching educational experience that broadened our students’ horizons.

-By Mr Maxson Dpenha



DP Students Reimagine Aneko Hitler on Hindi Divas

On the occasion of Hindi Divas, our DP students showcased their creativity and critical thinking through a thought-provoking drama performance of Aneko Hitler, written by the celebrated *Padmashri awardee, Vijaydaan Detha.

This year, our students ventured into the world of a veteran Hindi writer, interpreting his text with a fresh and innovative perspective. The performance was not just a dramatization, but an intellectual and artistic exploration of the themes woven into Detha's work. By blending sharp dialogue, expressive acting, and symbolic staging, the DP students succeeded in bringing the writer's vision alive on stage in a way that resonated deeply with the audience.

The play challenged viewers to reflect on power, ideology, and human behavior, demonstrating how literature continues to hold relevance in today's world. Each student's commitment – from script analysis and stage design to acting and direction – was evident in the professional quality and emotional depth of the production.

This performance stood as a testament to the DP learners' ability to merge language, culture, and creativity, embodying the IB spirit of inquiry and expression. By engaging with complex texts and presenting them artistically, our students celebrated not only Hindi language and literature but also their own growth as global thinkers and communicators.

We congratulate our DP performers for their dedication, creativity, and courage in taking on such a powerful work and giving it a new life on stage.

- By Ms Jaya Shahi





Nisarg Bhakti – When Spirituality Meets Sustainability

On 4th September DP1 students of the Biology and ESS Department presented a Nukkad Natak titled “Nisarg Bhakti – When Spirituality Meets Sustainability” at two Ganesh Mandals in Loni Kalbhor near vegetable market as part of their Trimester 1 project. As a part of this initiative, they tested the water quality of the Mula-Mutha river before Ganapati idol immersion started and after immersion on the 3rd, 6th, and 8th days, focusing on pH and turbidity levels. The results of this analysis were thought provoking. The levels of PH decreased from 6.74 to 6.64. Turbidity increased up to 2535 NTU.

Lowering pH makes water corrosive, harms aquatic organisms' physiology and egg development, and increases the toxicity of ammonia. Increased turbidity reduces light penetration, hindering photosynthesis and oxygen production, and it physically clogs gills and filter-feeding systems, while also making it harder for predators to find prey. Combined, these stressors significantly degrade habitat quality, reduce dissolved oxygen, and can increase the presence of pathogens and toxic substances.

The data was creatively presented through the natak. The performance began with the chants of “Ganpati Bappa Morya”, instantly engaging the onlookers and passers-by. With a multilingual approach (Hindi, Marathi and English) our students were able to connect with a wider community and spread the message of sustainability meaningfully.

The clear message was worship should not come at the cost of water quality, aquatic life, and community health. Sustainable practices (eco-friendly idols, symbolic immersions, artificial tanks) are ways to align faith with ecological care.

This was not just a project, but a heartfelt step towards blending devotion with responsibility, spirituality with sustainability.

-By Ms Neeru Mittal, HOD (Biology)



Teachers' Day Celebration at MIT Vishwashanti Gurukul

MIT Vishwashanti Gurukul celebrated Teachers' Day with grandeur and heartfelt gratitude, thoughtfully planned and executed by the Student Community. This year's theme, *Royal Darbar*, honoured our teachers as the true guides and mentors in our lives.

The morning began with a vibrant showcase of student performances in dance, drama, and skits, bringing joy and energy to the amphitheatre. Following this, teachers were honoured with Learner Profile Certificates, personally presented by the students as a token of appreciation and respect.

Later in the day, teachers received gifts of appreciation and certificates, followed by an inspiring address by the Head of School, acknowledging their dedication and invaluable role in shaping young minds.

The afternoon was filled with lighthearted and interactive questionnaire games, including "How Well Do You Know Your Students?", a rapid-fire round of school trivia, and fun guessing challenges. The celebrations continued with game stalls and activities such as cup stacking, whisper challenges, charades, and more, giving teachers a chance to relax and enjoy.

A highlight of the day was the spirited cricket match between students and teachers, with parallel activities like musical chairs, tug of war, and antakshari keeping the atmosphere lively for all.

The celebration truly reflected respect, joy, and togetherness – a memorable tribute to our teachers.



DP Students Participate in the Spanish Olympiad of India

On 10th September, our Diploma Programme students enthusiastically participated in the First Written Round of the Spanish Olympiad of India, held at Vishwashanti Gurukul World School (VGWS).

The Olympiad tested students' abilities in grammar, vocabulary, comprehension, and cultural knowledge, giving them the chance to apply their learning in a national-level platform. Participation in such events not only strengthens linguistic skills but also builds confidence, critical thinking, and intercultural awareness.

For our DP learners, this was an invaluable experience to connect with peers from different schools, celebrate the Spanish language, and demonstrate the IB spirit of curiosity and global mindedness.

Participation in such competitions builds qualities beyond academics – confidence, perseverance, teamwork, and intercultural understanding. Our students reflected the IB learner profile attributes of communicators, inquirers, and risk-takers, stepping out of their comfort zone to compete at a national level.

The Olympiad also celebrated the role of Spanish as a global language of connection, encouraging students to see themselves as part of an international community of learners. It was inspiring to witness their enthusiasm and commitment, both in preparation for the event and during the competition itself.

We congratulate our DP participants for their dedication and spirited participation. Their efforts remind us that language learning is not just about mastering words, but about building bridges across cultures and embracing global mindedness.

-By Ms Sulagna Das

