

VOL.3 OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2020

THE GOENKAN SCOOP

The Official Newsletter of GDGPS Sirsa



**D. GOENKA
SCHOOL**

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***Dr. APJ Abdul has rightly said-
"All of us do not have equal talents. But all of us have
an equal opportunity to develop our talents"***

FROM THE DESK OF MANAGING DIRECTOR

Dear parents,

Spring is finally upon us ! After a long cold winter, the warm weather has returned with a lot of joy and happiness.

Let me express my immense pleasure to interact with all the students, parents and staff through this digital platform. I thanks to all of you and especially our children for happy learning experience with G.D. Goenka Public School Sirsa.

The pandemic has stressed all of us in every aspect of our daily lives from an educational perspective custom of a daily physical gathering at school and the comfort that comes with that. Suddenly in its place we had a solitary and sometimes isolated experience. Aside from the serious health concerns of COVID-19, this may have been the biggest challenge of all.

Our students and families faced it with courage and resilience. I am grateful for that strength. As we came to the end of this very unique and often challenging school year, I would like to end by saying an enormous "THANK YOU" to all of you who have contacted the school or sent in messages of thanks and offers of support. This is a situation like no other that we have ever had to face and myself and my staff genuinely appreciate your support and recognition of the job we are trying to do in continuing to educate, support and care for your children, our students. Thank you all for care.

DR. SURINDER GOYAL



**G.D. GOENKA
SCHOOL**



***"Success comes to those who
Work hard and stays with those,
Who don't rest on the laurels of the past"***

FROM THE DESK OF CHAIRMAN

Dear Goenkans parents,
We hope you and your family are safe and well!

As we approach, thank giving and the opportunity it brings to be mindful of our many blessings, even in the era of a pandemic. The current circumstances we live in are unknown to us all and they bring a lot of uncertainties and new challenges with them. For this reason, we would like to express our gratitude which is happiness doubled by wonder from the entire Goenkan family.

Everyday, I moved at the incredible devotion of our staff and their unique ability to teach and inspire our children.

Everyday, I celebrate the amazing support of parents and community.

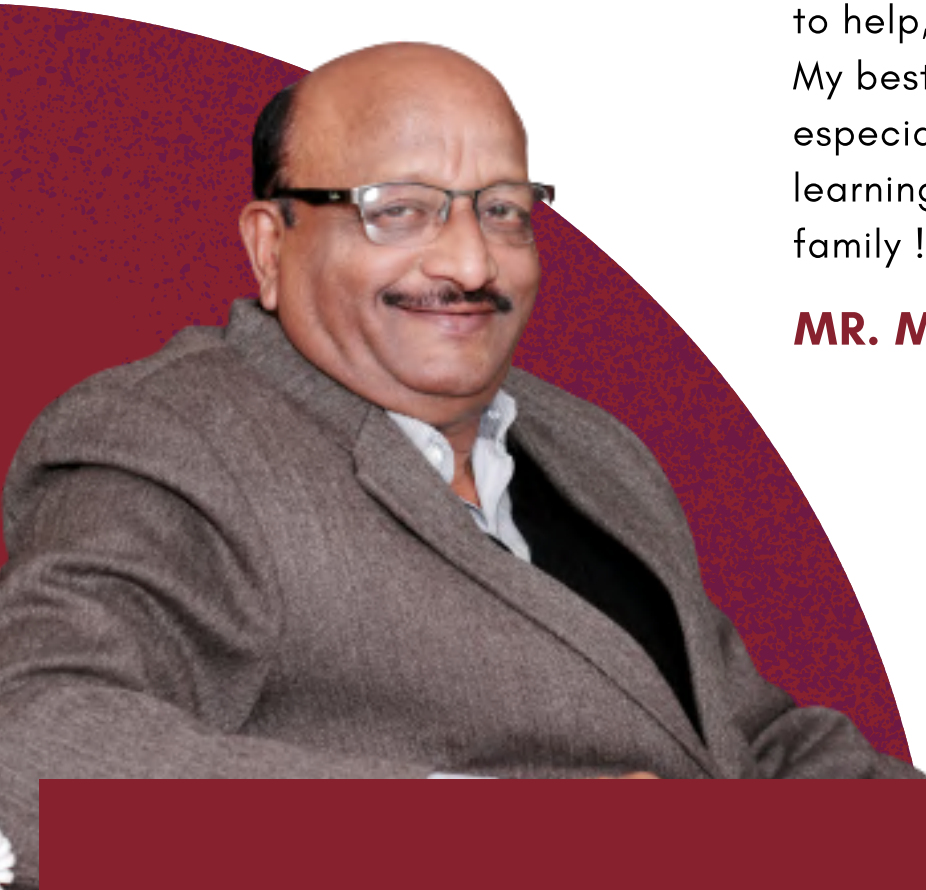
I believe that the success of our school is built on a foundation of mutual respect and inclusiveness. Everyday, dedicated teachers and staff nurture a culture of fairness, love and caring, all focused on the goal of providing a safe learning environment for our students and families. I committed to continuing this focus and supporting our families during the school day and beyond.

Finally, we hope that this crisis will be somehow resolved in the near future.

Thank you all for the care, commitment and courage you have shown in what has proved to be a particularly difficult time and if there is anything that we can do to help, please let us know.

My best wishes to all of you and especially our children for a happy learning experience with Goenkan family !

MR. MURAARI LAL BANSAL



Children learn as they play. Most importantly, in play, children learn how to learn.”- O Fred Donaldson

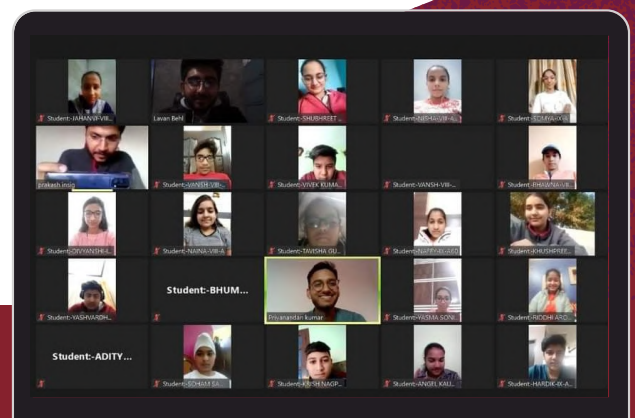
ACCLIVITY THROUGH E-LEARNING AND QUICK CONFABS WITH STUDENTS

The year 2020 gone by has been a tough one for all of us. The year has thrown many curveballs for mankind to deal with as we all witnessed the calamitous power of nature and the need to move on with positive thoughts.

Learning through play is one of the main ways in which children learn and develop. It is through play that the learners acquire essential skills such as imagination, dexterity, creativity, physical, emotional and cognitive strength, working with others, sharing and collaborating and much more. As G.D. Goenka Public School, Sirsa try to engage the students in a plethora relevant and significant experiences by creating a rich and apowerful environment. This year, digital connectivity has played a key role in the learning environment and in providing unexpected opportunities to the students. It is true when it is said that child impacts the environments and is in turn, impacted by the environment.

An environment respects the agency of “Rich and Powerful learners”, it encourages the students to experiment, to ideate, to problem solve. Taking cognizance of this, at G.D. Goenka, we ensure that the learners are nurtured and provided with an environment which allows them to co-construct learning, promotes self-efficacy and brings in a sense of ownership. With its commitment to student learning in its transdisciplinary context, continuous integration and connection of prior and new knowledge and experiences to broaden their understanding during the online classes. The hands on engagements, symbolic exploration and expressions not only helps in developing conceptual understanding in the learners but also gives the students an opportunity to inquire, act and reflect on their understanding thereby taking their learning to new and unexpected directions.

We hope the New Year 2021 will usher a new beginning where we take the learning from the year 2020 to make the change. We should consider that education is not just the process of achieving a certificate with professional knowledge, skills, ethical values and beliefs; rather it is a tool to empower us and help us in developing and evolving into a better being. Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan said “The end-product of education should be a free creative man, who can battle against historical circumstances and adversities of nature.”



FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

OBSERVANCE OF THE FESTIVAL OF DUSSEHRA

GDGPS believes that festivals are an expressive way to celebrate glorious heritage, culture and traditions. They are meant to rejoice special moments and emotions in our lives with our loved ones. They play an important role to add structure to our social lives and connect us with our families and backgrounds. October 25, 2020 was observed as Dussehra which marks the victory of good over evil. It is the most prominent festival among the Hindu community. It was celebrated as a virtual manner by Goenkans this year. The teachers explained the significance of the festival in their synchronous session. The various Art and craft activities were also taught during online classes like Ravana puppet, Poster making based on Ramayana theme etc.

Dussehra celebration is incomplete without traditional outfits. The enthusiastic young buds of Primary section dressed themselves as a Ramayana character for the online classes. It's the time to not just burn the effigy of Ravana but to destroy the sins within. Our little Goenkans of class III celebrated valour and courage and learned the importance of this auspicious festival of Dussehra through online platform and paid tribute to our intangible cultural heritage by celebrating the festival of Vijayadashami and thus propagated the idea of liberation from the present day evils that are not in front of us personified in the form of a human or demon but inside us in the form of biases, stereotypes and prejudices. The Goenkans will surely remember its unique way of celebration.



FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

DIWALI WEEK CELEBRATION

Diwali, festival of lights brightens up our homes and hearts with joy, love and warmth. Diwali celebration has its significance across various belief systems, but the symbolic cord that runs common across all of them is the victory of good over evil, light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. This year's theme for Diwali was all about going local and getting stuff from the local vendors and illuminating their lives year after year. Our students from all grades participated in a plethora of activities and spared no efforts to enliven the festive spirit. Teachers explained the importance of Green Diwali to Grade Nursery and K.G. students in respective online classes. The students of Grade I were given a task which was named as Kindness Act (lighten up other's Diwali) where they had to buy Diwali goodies from poor person and gift it to needy people.

Poem Recitation competition and Story Telling Competition was organized for the students of Grade II and Grade III respectively. Students from Grade IV had Diwali craft competition. In which they decorated alluring Thalīs & Diyas. Also made photoframes, Lamps, and strings from craft paper. Students from Grade 5th participated in Roleplay competition. They dressed up in colorful traditional costumes.

Meanwhile, Tzaina student of Grade V narrated the whole story in nutshell of "Ramayana" eloquently. Students of Grade VII showcased their expertise in beautiful & eye catching "Rangoli" making competition. For Students of class IX and X Sweet and Dessert making competition was organised, in which they prepared mouthwatering sweets and desserts.



FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

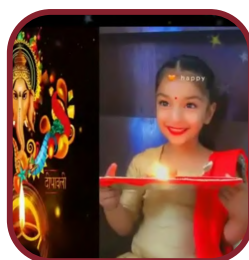
TINKLING BELLS WITH CHRISTMAS

Celebrations are a unique way to bind people together. It fosters peace, harmony and unity. Keeping this in mind G.D. Goenka Public School, Sirsa also believes that festivals are an expressive way to celebrate glorious heritage, culture and traditions. They are meant to rejoice special moments and emotions in our lives with our loved ones. They play an important role to add structure to our social lives, and connect us with our families and backgrounds. December 25, 2020 was observed as Christmas. It is the most prominent festival among the Christian community which is marked as the birthday of Lord Jesus Christ. Grade Nursery to Grade IV celebrated this festival virtually in an online class.

The online class echoed with Christmas carols sung melodiously by the school choir ushering in the festival season and the dance performance graced the assembly further. The boundless joy of celebrating the festival was visible on the faces of all the children while creating beautiful Christmas crafts and making the day even more special. The task called 'Be someone's Santa' was given to the students of Grade KG where students gave gifts to poor and needy kids. Special baking class was there for Grade V to VIII students. Ms Shanvi Mehra taught students how to make jim jam cookies and ginger star cookies. The students really enjoyed the Christmas week.

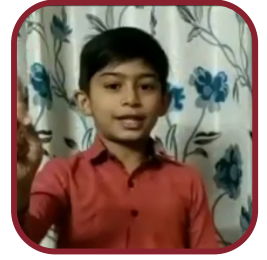
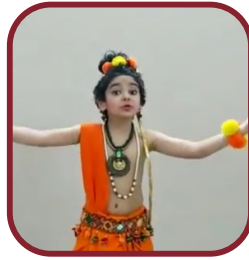
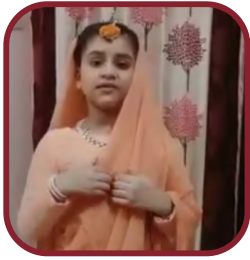


'Life should be a continual celebration, a festival of lights the whole year round. Only then can you grow up, can you blossom'



SOME GLIMPSES OF FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

*'Live every day as if it is a festival.
Turn your life into a celebration'*



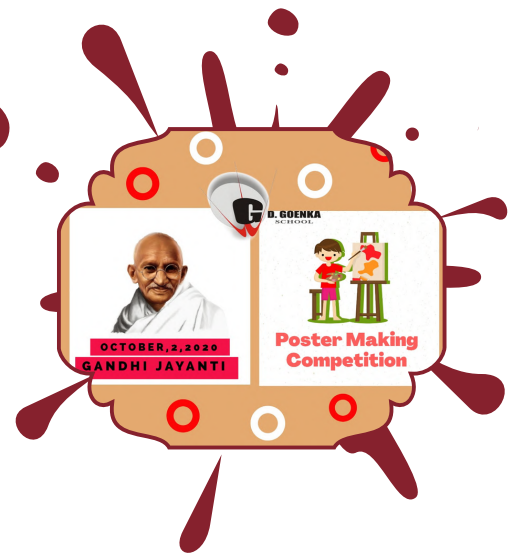
SOME GLIMPSES OF FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

COMMEMORATION OF IMPORTANT DAYS

REMEMBERING FATHER OF NATION ON GANDHI JAYANTI

The birth anniversary of the father of nation was celebrated with great reverence by the Goenkans. They paid homage to the greatest pioneer of change and ambassador of non-violence. His life indeed is a message to all of us constantly inspiring us to work selflessly for the betterment of society as a whole.

Gandhiji said that 'To learn is to grow' and we firmly believe that each day is a new opportunity to learn. May his principles of simplicity, love, peace and equality for all continue to guide us all. GDGPS organized various competitions for Grade IV to Grade VIII. Slogan writing competition was organized for Grade IV and V and Poster Making competition for Grade (VI to VIII).



COMMEMORATION OF IMPORTANT DAYS

WORLD FOOD DAY

Every year, World Food Day is celebrated on 16th October to commemorate the date of the founding of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. The importance of famous saying, "A healthy mind resides in a healthy body" was felt the most in the pandemic situation and to put it into practice, an array of activities was organized by G.D. Goenka in which the importance of healthy food (Veggies, Fruit, Sprouts and all the home made food) were taught to our kids of Grade I to III during online classes. Students were involved in various activities like sandwich making, fruit salad, vegetable salad. The main motive of the celebration was to inculcate the good and healthy eating habits to our students. The best thing of this activity was when our students were able to distinguish between the healthy and junk food. On the other hand, a task was given to Grade II and III students to feed needy people and an animal.

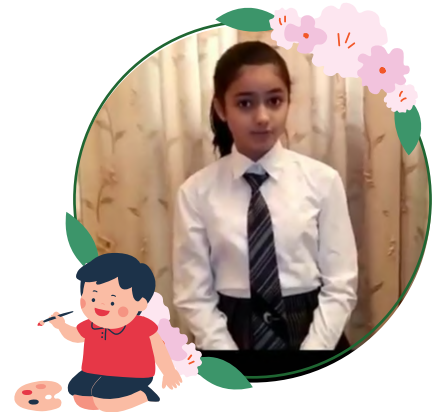


COMMEMORATION OF IMPORTANT DAYS

VIRTUAL CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN' DAY

The innocence of children is what makes them stand out as shining example from the rest of the mankind. Children's Day is celebrated to honour children globally aiming at protecting them from working long hours in dangerous circumstances and allowing access to rightful education. Routinely, schools celebrate Children's Day with functions, where teachers present skits and ensemble performances.

This year, however, teachers tried to replicate the activities virtually. Our school due to COVID-19 pandemic decided to take the virtual route for celebrating Children day. On this children day, teachers of GDGPS expressed sincere gratitude towards all the students to express their unconditional love. Faculty members of the Goenka family showcased a dance video especially dedicated to all the students on the Facebook page. Rishika from Grade VII delivered special speech on this occasion.



COMMEMORATION OF IMPORTANT DAYS

GURU NANAK DEV JI JAYANTI

Goenkans are always enthusiastic, when it is about celebration of religious festivals. This year was very special as it was 551st birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. The life of Guru ji always enlighten everybody's heart and mind with knowledge. In order to make our students aware about the teachings and preachings of Guru ji, Guru Nanak Jayanti was celebrated virtually this year. During their online classes, teachers taught them about the life of Guru ji. A special presentation was showcased on Facebook where the students depicted glimpses of the sacred life lived by Guru Nanak Dev ji. The well presented enactment certainly enlightened the students about the solemnity of the festival.

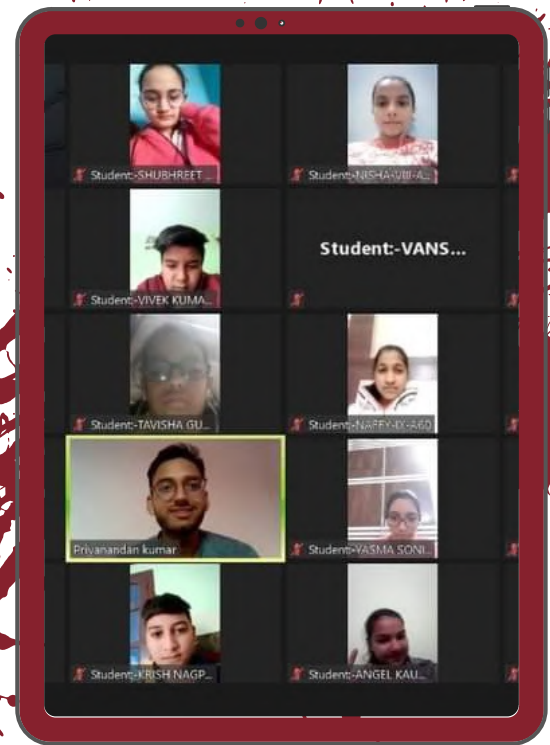


COMMEMORATION OF IMPORTANT DAYS

WEBINAR CUM COUNSELLING REGARDING LEGAL AWARENESS

The purpose of webinar is promotion of legal education and awareness. It was a platform where building lawyers disgorge their ideas and efforts to encourage legal activities, inspired young students and helped them by bringing various laws into their knowledge.

The speakers for the session were Mr. Lavan Behl, Mr. Priyanandan Kumar and Ms. Pooja. This was an opportunity for students to brush up their knowledge on the constitution of India. In the webinar, students learnt about their legal rights.



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CHILL O' THRILL ACTIVITIES

Co-curricular activities are part and parcel of students' life to explore strengths and talents outside of academics. They are helping students in order to develop stronger time-management, to bring social skills, moral values, intellectual skills, personality progress, organizational skills and character appeal in students. In short they are required for the all round development of the student. Quarantine is especially difficult for children and accustomed to a level of daily physical activity. Keeping the above in view, We Goenka Team keep organizing the activities for our kids to ameliorate their skills even when they are confined to their homes due to this covid situation. No one can stop Goenkans to spread their wings, even this pandemic too.

We at G.D. Goenka Sirsa have organized a plethora of activities which give a new dimension to their personalities by developing important life skills. The activity teachers of GDGPS like dance, music, yoga, sports, art and crafts provided students with professional training videos to watch from home. Teachers also demonstrated how various exercises were done and explained how to perform them. During the online classes, the students follow the instructions in the videos, film themselves doing the exercises and sent the videos to the teachers for review.

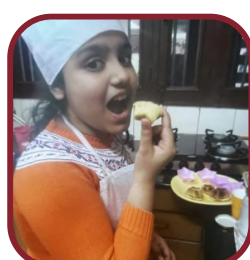
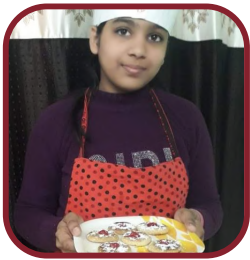
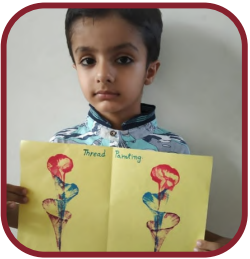
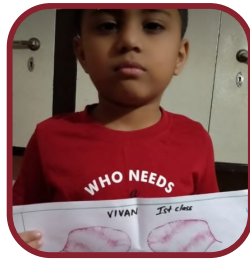
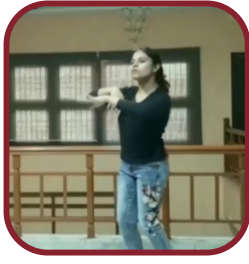
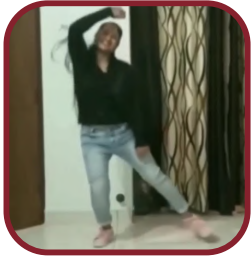


"Activity and rest are two vital aspects of life. A perfect life is a perfect blend of activity and idleness."



SOME GLIMPSES OF OTHER DAYS ACTIVITIES

"Joy is found not in finishing an activity but doing it"



SOME GLIMPSES OF OTHER DAYS ACTIVITIES

SPRIT OF COMPETITION

A spirit of competition teaches children the importance of taking a healthy risk instead of only doing activities that they are comfortable with. It teaches kids to step out of their comfort zone and they often being averse of new risky activities can keep them from enjoying activities that they may grow to love. In Today's time, which is intricately reliant on technology, to give an edge to the students and to cultivate their linguistic skills, unlock their potential, awaken their passion.

Competition	Grade	First	Second	Third	Consolation
Poem Recitation	II	Anayta	Nuransh, Anaya, Tanzil	Etasha, Raghav	Hunar, Kavish Mittra, Uditi Gupta
Story Telling	III	Nayonika Garg	Annavi Goyal		
Craft making	IV	Samreen Bal	Hardik Verma Tejas Mehta Vivaan Hisaria	Parneet Kaur Yug Suthar	Bhupender Singh
Role play	V	Aarav	Sanober	Prerna, Prachi	Terrance
Slogan Writing	IV and V	Ruhana, Tzaina	Suryadita, Akshat	Manveer, Jayant, Naitik Chauhan	Suviti, Kamakshi, Parneet Kaur
Poster Making	VI to VIII	Prarthana Sahoo	Naina, Vaibhavi	Bhawna, Kushaan Lamba	Bhavya, Kashish Verma
Rangoli Making	VII	Kashish Verma	Rishika	Chestha Kakul	
Sweet Making	IX and X	Shalin Kathpal Shubhreet	Noor Gill Agamjot Kaur	Parneet Yashmit Soni Samarvir Singh	Piyush

CONGRATULATIONS



GOENKANS ROCK IN NUMEROUS ONLINE VENTURES

ACHIEVEMENT IN ONLINE COMPETITION BY CLASSMATE

A brand name in stationery 'Classmate' had organized an online drawing contest for Grade 2nd and Grade 3rd and a handwriting contest for Grade 4th and 5th to nurture their skills. The theme of contest was Christmas. Winners were awarded with appreciation vouchers from classmate. Here are Goenkan stars who won these contests.



Grade - II

Drawing Competition



Kartikeya



Etasha



Kavy Ranga



Grade - III

Drawing Competition



Nayonika Garg



Annavi Goyal



Saksham



Grade - IV

Handwriting Competition



Bhuvi Goyal



Tejas Mehta



Vivaan Hisaria



Grade - V

Handwriting Competition



Tzaina Bajaj



Kamakshi Mehta



Naman



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GOENKANS ROCK IN NUMEROUS ONLINE VENTURES

ADDING WINGS TO IMAGINATION

Stories always give wings to our imagination and take us to places beyond the boundaries of physical world. It is time to chirk up and celebrate the victory of our achiever. Our talented Goenkan astounded everyone through her commendable performance at the Inter School Story Narration Competition conducted by G.D. Goenka, Rohini. Kamakshi student of Grade V of our school got II position in Delhi NCR. Kudos to the bright performer for her outstanding presentation. We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the parents for their best wishes and unwavering support and well deserved success to Kamakshi.



Kamakshi (Grade- 5th)
G.D. Goenka Public School, Sirsa



PARENTS PRIME REVIEWS

The school is really doing beyond well during this period. The online classes have helped our son to stay focused. The well planned curriculum, keeping in mind timely submissions, Saturday tests, interactive sessions and other activities have been very positive. My son loved the way his English teacher Milkbir ma'am taught with the help of toys and by interesting videos. She makes the things clear to the kids so easily. I am wondering how easily his hindi teacher Kavita ma'am make him habit of not drinking cold water over hot things which I was trying but not succeed in last one year. His Mathematics teacher Sanvi ma'am clear the concepts so interestingly and now Mathematics is his favourite subject. Also loved the way of teaching of his EVS teacher Payal ma'am who make the subject interesting for the kids (initially he hates EVS but now he is relating the chapters with the surroundings and starts liking the subject).

Thank you to the teachers and the co-ordinators for their never ending efforts. Keep up the good work.

Dr. Suman Kulhari

Dr. Prabhash Kulhari

(Vihaan's parents)



My son Tejas is studying in KG class with G.D. Goenka Public School.

Online platform of study gave a new experience to kids and they thoroughly enjoyed it. Teachers kept my child busy both In academics and other activities. Through the video lectures they taught him how to be creative and active minded? Activities planned according to the festivals made the child aware of culture , tradition and rituals. Even in academics teachers kept in touch constantly. They make child understand the concept of reading and writing accordingly. I am very satisfied with progress of my child and I am looking forward for a bright future of my child with such good teachers and school.

Mother of Tejas

Grade KG

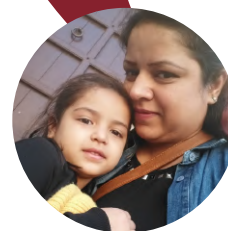


I really want to appreciate the way you carried out online classes for such small kids. It is really very challenging task to handle kids on online forum and moreover make it so interactive and enjoyable. We as parents want to thank your efforts for delivering such a huge task in a very simplified manner that make kids learn as well enjoy the study during the time of pandemic.

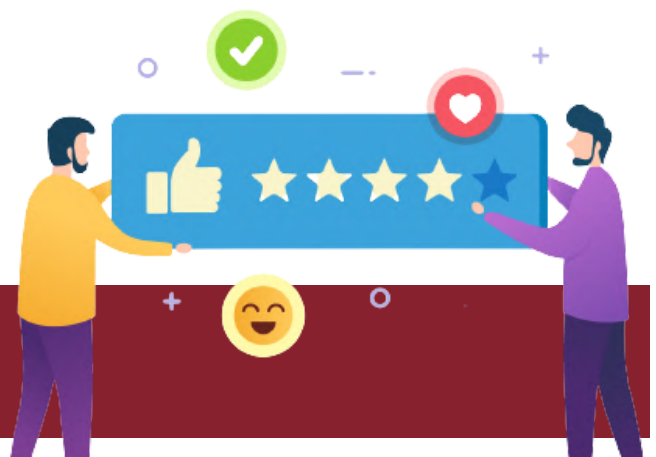
Mrs Sona Luthra

Mother of Dikshita

Grade Nursery



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PARENTS PRIME REVIEWS

I would like to congratulate all the teachers for their commendable job during this pandemic with online classes. Children were so excited during their online classes, they learnt a lot from them. Teachers also provided all kind of study material which was required during the classes which made study more interesting for kids while doing practicals. That's why I am so impressed because their aim was not only completing the syllabus but also to build various skills in kids which is much important. My daughter Asmeen Kaur enjoyed all the practicals, activities etc. during online classes. Thanks to all the Teachers of the GD Goenka for providing such soothing atmosphere for kids so that their study hadn't effected during this tough time.

*Kiranjot,
Mother of Asmeen kaur 1 A+*



Greetings !

I would like to take this opportunity as to thank school staff and teachers for keeping up with my daughter's education during this time of a pandemic, the kind of hard work teachers are putting into their studies really show how dedicated and inclined they are towards shaping a better future for my child and her mates.

I really would like to appreciate Anju Ma'am sweating hard to create an inclusive classroom. And lastly, A big applause for the entire school administration for their incredible support by conducting online classes in very organized way..

Hence, I would conclude by saying a big thank you to the G.D.Goenka staff working this hard and making education a milestone.

Regards

Dr.Shelly

Mother of Kamakshi (Grade V)

I would like to pay my utmost gratitude to all Goenkan faculty members, Principal ma'am and Management from the core of my heart for your support and hard work throughout the year. We feel blessed that teachers are really doing commendable job to make our kids' future bright.

Mrs Chanchal

Mother of Kashvi

Grade 3 A



PARENTS PRIME REVIEWS

I am glad to be associated with Goenka group. During the lockdown phase, we all came across the concept of online classes for our kids. I was a bit hesitant initially about the process of virtual learning. But kudos to the Goenka staff who managed everything in an effective way. They were all ready with well planned and actionable curriculum and had set clear goals from day one. Class environment was kept highly disciplined and motivated through out the session. Co-curricular activities and competitions were also executed periodically. Timely feedback was taken and parent-teacher online meetings were arranged on regular basis to address all concerns. I am delighted that my daughter had never faced isolation or disconnection be it academics or other activities. Although kids were physically locked down in home premises but their minds were free and full of enthusiasm. They were learning every concept precisely. This was possible only because of the efforts put in by teachers. Her overall development during this period was at par with my expectations. I would like to thank whole staff of G.D.Goenka from the bottom of my heart to make this possible during this tough time.

*Mrs. Anjali Singh
Mother of Rheet Singh
Grade - V*



I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Goenkan team for their stupendous efforts towards mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on the studies of students. The pandemic has posed numerous challenges before the whole system, but the Goenkan team has left no stone unturned in searching for the new modes of teaching. I would like to admire and appreciate the efforts of all the teachers for their hard work, dedication and patience with which they have taught the students during this difficult period.

It is worth appreciable that despite the challenges; online classes of music, yoga, dance, art, sports, cooking, celebration of national and religious festivals, competitions everything was going on as in case of normal schooling. A big salute to the Principal Dr. Poonam Monga, Vice principal Mrs. Priyanka Arora for their dedication, passion and tireless efforts; for your presence has definitely made this school the best place of learning.

*Mrs Samriti Kamboj
Mother of Aditya
Grade VII*



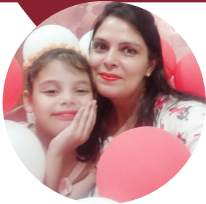
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PARENTS PRIME REVIEWS

I am glad to have an opportunity to appreciate all the staff members and school management for putting their efforts at the time of lockdown due to Covid 19. You guys are really working hard for students and make them engaged in the studies as well as other activities by providing virtual classes to them. Children are taking great interest in online classes and became more friendly with their teachers and feel refreshed after class. Keep it up guys. I truly appreciate your encouragement and support. THANKS

*Mrs Sujata Madaan
M/O Tanzil Madaan
Grade 2 A++*



I really want to appreciate the way you carried out online classes for such a small kids. It is really very challenging task to handle kids on online forum and moreover make it so interactive and enjoyable. We as a parents want to thank your efforts for delivering such a huge task in a very simplified manner that make kids learn as well enjoy the study during the time of pandemic.

*Mrs Sona Luthra
Mother of Dikshita
Grade Nursery*

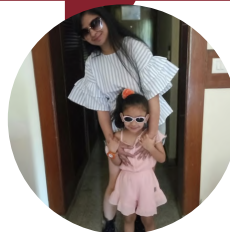
My son Agam has been attending online classes since April 2020. It was little difficult to understand all the concepts online but all the respected teachers did their best. I would like to appreciate Goenka's efforts. Thanks to each and every member of Goenkan Family.

*Regards
Mandeep Singh
F/O Agam Singh
Grade 3 A+*



Hi, I would like to express my gratitude towards all the teachers for the commendable job they are doing with online classes. I like the fact that focus is not just on finishing the syllabus but also ensuring that each kid is learning properly. We are extremely thankful to G.D Public School for ensuring that our children's study have not been effected because of lockdown.

*Mrs Jyotika
Mother of Shivanya
Grade - KG*



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