

MID JANUARY - MARCH 2020 | EDITION N°8

# LA GAZETTE

Newsletter of the French International School in Mumbai



LYCÉE FRANÇAIS  
INTERNATIONAL  
DE MUMBAI



## OUR NEW LABORATORY IN USE

With our lab fully operational, the Physics-Chemistry lab work started for the Secondary school students last week.

While the sixth graders discovered that some harmless mixes could be dangerous, the fifth graders were having fun making instant hot ice cream from vinegar and yeast. A much more studious atmosphere for Séraphin (12<sup>th</sup> Grade) who has to master the technique of titration dosing for the Baccalauréat chemistry exam.





# TRAVELING AROUND THE CLASSROOM

This year's Senior Kindergarten class is characterized by cultural diversity. In fact, the students come from all over the world, each with their own culture and language, and yet they all enthusiastically learn at LFIM. Therefore, it was very easy to choose the class project for the school year 2019-2020; the discovery of the different countries represented within the class. Since the beginning of the year, they have been traveling together throughout Europe, Asia and North and South America. To guide us in these trips, the parents of our students have been the best ambassadors, having eagerly accepted to participate in this project. One by one, they have and will come to



the class to give us a glimpse of their culture and language. The children have had the opportunity to dance to the beats of the Rio carnival with Sandra (Laure's mother), to discover the origin of dream catchers with Mélanie (Mikaël's mother), to marvel at the diversity of French landscapes with Johana (Marcus' mother) or to eat homemade waffles with Vinciane (Adelaide's mother). The children are looking forward to the next stages of our trip around the world and cultures, with Spain, Lithuania, South Korea and Japan on the programme for the coming months.



## NCPA

The elementary students of LFIM had the privilege of being invited to a one of a kind event at NCPA, to witness the world's most renowned tabla player, Zakir Hussain, and Indian vocalists, Hariharan and Shankar Mahadevan, perform their celebrated crafts in unison with the Symphony Orchestra of India. Such a merge of Indian and Western Classical music, enabled the creation of pure and unmatched sound, proving that the combination of differences is a strength.

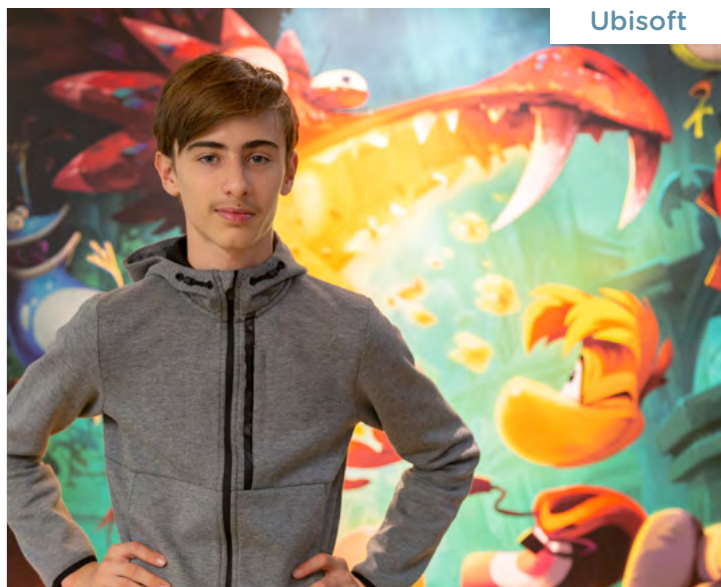




# OBSERVATION INTERNSHIPS

The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade students spent a week in a company as part of the compulsory job-shadowing project carried out during this important year of Secondary school. Each student had to search for a company in Mumbai, one where they would spend 5 working days observing its trade and work environment. This is an exciting experience for our young adults, the opportunity to learn about the world of

Ubisoft



## Action against hunger



work and take a step in their choice of future, one that they will complement with other experiences between now and the end of their final year (12<sup>th</sup> Grade). Following this, each student will present a report to the headmistress and their principal teacher, Jean-Baptiste Fauchille, in order to prepare for the oral presentation of the National Brevet Diploma that he or she will present in Delhi in June 2020 before a grand jury.

# THREE TRAINEE TEACHERS



This past month, the Kindergarten and Elementary students received a different kind of support, in the form of 3 intern teachers – Alyscia, Louanne and Bastien. As part of their Master’s programme, these teachers in-the-making chose Mumbai as their internship destination to discover the cultural wonders India has to offer.

They also took time to share their experience at LFIM, highlighting some features unique to our school, like our multicultural environment, low student/teacher ratio and bilingual approach to the Baccalaureate. These added benefits render the lessons more attractive and interactive, motivating students to attend and learn. Another characteristic they cared to share was the variety in teaching methods depending upon the teacher’s background, be it France, India, the United Kingdom or the United States of America. To conclude, they found our school as colourful as its host country. We wish them the best of luck in their finals and in their future endeavours.



# WATER AT ITS FINEST



The 1<sup>st</sup> Grade students made ice cream!

The “Questioning the World” programme led the students to identify changes in the state of water.

They found the solidification process of water into ice, and eventually ice cream, very interesting.

As any keen scientist would, they prepared the ice and before sampling, they took great care to draw a diagram of their experiment.

Do not hesitate to ask them for an ice cream. They will be happy to prepare it for you and explain the different states of one of Earth’s natural elements.





# HEART OF SAINT VALENTINE

To celebrate Valentine's Day, a day of romance and love, the Junior and Senior Kindergarteners decided to recreate the universal symbol of love – the heart.

To add a twist to this artsy activity, each heart had various patterns embedded within them. With the help of many colours, the students rendered this symbolic shape very colourful and attractive, while making sure to keep it neat and tidy thanks to the pattern lines.







# OUR SCHOOL'S INAUGURATION

On Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, our school was officially inaugurated by the Consul General, Mrs. Sonia Barbry, and the Minister of Tourism and Environment in Maharashtra, Hon. Mr. Aaditya Thackeray. We thank you all for coming in large numbers to celebrate this important moment with us, marking the end of

several months of hard work and construction. Rest assured that all the LFIM staff – principal, teachers, administration staff, as well as the Management Committee chaired by Mrs Lardenois-Imbert, are all dedicated to the well-being and education of your children.




# KITE FLYING DAY

On the spring festival of Kite flying day, children of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade said goodbye to winter and celebrated the onset of spring through poetry and literature.

At the end of the day, laughter and joy could be heard by many as the two classes came together to fly kites in front of the school.





A chef with a beard, wearing a white chef's coat, is seated at a table. The table is set with plates, glasses, and small vases containing pink flowers. Behind him is a large painting of a still life with various objects in a dark pot. The background wall is a deep red color.

We learn to cook through the  
cuisine of others. Somewhere along  
the line, we make it our own.

Jean-Francois Piegé  
*Alexis' former Head Chef*

## FOCUS ON OUR PARENTS

Growing up in Paris, I was blessed to have learnt many different styles of French cuisine, each with its own unique perspective. From huge brasseries to quaint bistros and from 5-star hotels to my grandmother's cabin surrounded by vineyards in Loire. Naturally, I feel my philosophy on food draws upon each of these experiences. I've never felt that any style is superior to another, only that they each play an integral role as part of the mosaic that is French cuisine.

Chef Alexis  
*Nathan's father*

# CARNIVAL

On Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> February, the day before the holidays, we celebrated the festival of Carnival. Fairies, witches, superheroes, super-heroines, clowns, geniuses, famous footballers and vampires roamed the school's corridors and ground floor to the beats of Rio's samba.

The party ended in a joyful and cheerful atmosphere with the devouring of cakes and cookies baked by the parents, whom we thank once again for their contribution.





# SEX EDUCATION

The Middle school students attended a workshop on the theme of sexual health led by Ms. Nikita Parodia.

A first group composed of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade students were able to discover the various changes that occur during puberty. Through these exchanges and advices, they are provided with all the tools to cope with this difficult and intense period.

A second group comprising of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade students, dealt with sexuality in general and its different



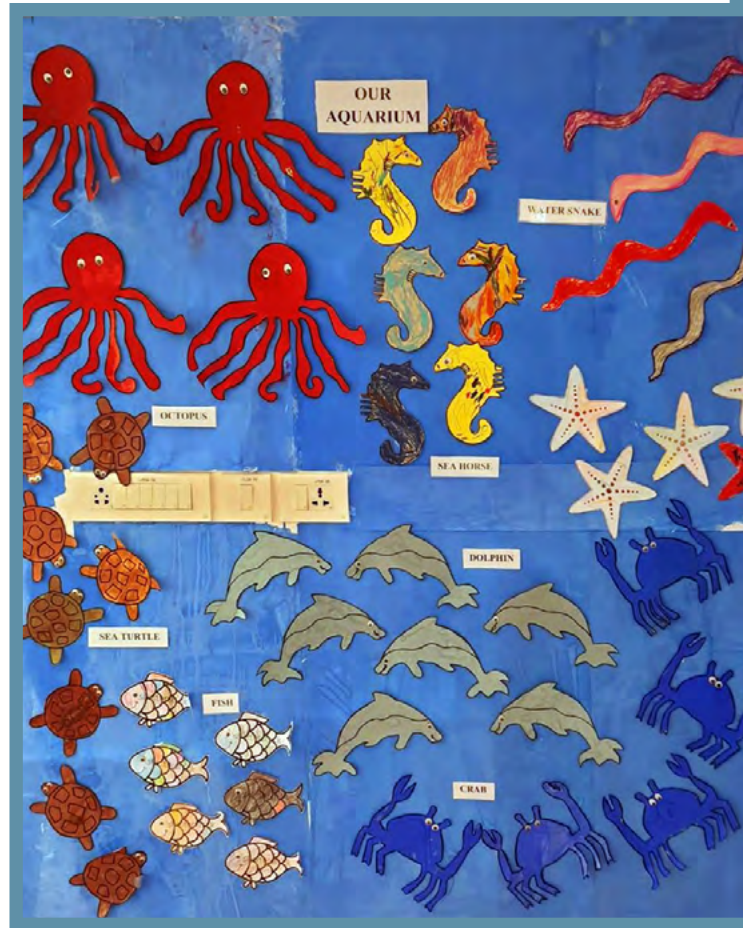
aspects. Many topics were discussed such as sexual identity, attraction, the notion of consent, contraception and STDs (Sexually Transmitted Infections).

These workshops enable conversations and debates on topics that are sometimes taboo and difficult to discuss. Various aids were used, including videos and games to break the ice. In a respectful and non-judgemental atmosphere, everyone was able to express their apprehensions and ask questions.

# REVISITING THE SEA

After their school trip to the Taraporewala Aquarium, the toddlers of Reception and Pre-Kindergarten, with the assistance of their teacher, Anshu Anand, made their own aquarium in class. This activity was a good way to recapitulate what they had learned during their visit.

While colouring and painting the sea creatures, they started to recognize their various characteristics and shapes. Their colourful aquarium is open to all. Please feel free to drop by and visit this recreated world under the sea.





# FAREWELL TO THE TEISSEIRE FAMILY

It was with great emotion that we bade farewell to Gaëlle Teisseire, our professor of Economic and Social Sciences, and her children – Alix, Théodore and Capucine. Gaëlle has been teaching in our school for two and a half years, supporting each of her students with utmost dedication and providing them with various methods to analyze and retain the important elements of the subject. She also set up the reading workshop for the Middle school students, which will be carried on in her honour. She will continue to guide her students until the end of the year thanks to a programme she has set up for them and through the miracles of technology nowadays.

Alix, Théodore, Capucine, we have no doubt that you will become very successful. You three will be missed. Gaëlle, see you soon, online... And thank you for your kindness, your availability and the time spent leading your students on the road to success.





## SCHOOL TRIP

The Secondary school trip from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of February this year was all about sports and adventure. The students and their teachers, Nikeeta Kulkarni, Carolyn Humbert, Thomas Audic and Sabir Mohibhousen, spent 4 days camping in the mountains of Yercaud in India's Southernmost state of Tamil Nadu. They were ably guided by the very professional instructors of Youreka/Inme who ensured safety and security while arranging a wide array of activities from rappelling to tree climbing, stream walking and rock climbing.

The activities not only brought to light the physical strength of the children but also helped them to reflect on personality building while enhancing leadership, motivation and concentration skills. Spending time in nature without their families and electronic gadgets brought the children together and gave them a lifetime of memories to cherish forever.







## MAGIC BUS

From 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> February, the students of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade traveled to the 'Magic Bus' venue. This NGO, which helps underprivileged children in Mumbai, has set up a fabulous site just a few hours from the city.

Consisting of a huge football field, two large dormitories and an outdoor cafeteria, surrounded by greenery, it is the ideal space for a real breath of fresh air away from the traffic jams and pollution of Mumbai.

The children spent three days to the rhythm of the activities proposed by the organizers - climbing, raft building, art in nature, discovery of the fauna and flora, campfire, night in tents and more!

In their words, it was an unforgettable experience. We are happy to share a few snapshots of this beautiful adventure with you.



# SAMPLING WORKSHOP



The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students organized a sensory workshop for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students. The objective of this workshop was to make them discover or rediscover the fruits and vegetables of India based on the 5 senses. All the participants, deprived of their sight, had the pleasure of savouring various foods with their other senses.





# FREDERICK

Theatre students of LFIM hosted a performance on the story 'Frederick' written by Leo Lionni. This roleplay has emerged through a series of storytelling sessions, where the students chose this particular one to showcase their work-in-progress. Students have adapted this story using their own imagination, while discovering their own characters through various improvisation activities previously carried out.

It is a story about five little field mice and how each one accommodates the other. While they work together as a team, they also display their individual unique characteristics.



# PLANT LIFE



As part of the theme on fruits and vegetables, the Junior Kindergarteners studied about plants in French class.

After reading a few books on the subject, the children found the answers to their following questions: How do plants grow? What do they need to grow?

They then sorted and sowed lentils, beans and wheat grains in cotton.



In parallel with watering and daily care of their plants, they observed them grow before drawing them out. They also carried out a number of activities related to the topic.

