

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2021 | EDITION N°16

# LA GAZETTE

Newsletter of The French International School of Mumbai



# BACK TO SCHOOL

After a well-deserved summer holiday, the start of the new school year was very auspicious as we were able to welcome all of our pupils in person to begin the year.

New friends, new teachers, new books, new lessons and sometimes a big leap forward from GS to CP, CM2 to Sixième...all this accompanied by changes of masks and hand disinfection, the year 2021-2022 started on a joyful note, the whole school being now broken in to COVID-19 sanitary standards.

Each member of our community, school staff, parents, students, each member at his or her level can be proud because we have all worked together to make it possible to welcome our children, whatever their age. Well done to all! And as the teachers often say in their comments: keep it up.





# THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2021 -2022

Our sincere congratulations go to the two new members of the Management Committee who were elected at our Annual General Meeting on 29 September 2021.

We asked them what motivated them to join the team and this is what they said.

'It gives me immense pleasure to be a part of the MC and participate in the running of our esteemed institute which plays a key role in the development of our children and also prepare them to discover the world full of opportunities to shape their careers.'

*- Nidhi Modi, Treasurer*

'I am very passionate about education since I come from a family of teachers (both parents and both sets of grandparents as well as several aunts and uncles were teachers).

This is my family's first expatriate assignment and our first time in India, so I want to get more acquainted with the international school system.

I've been very fortunate to have had this opportunity to come to Mumbai with my family and I've been looking for ways to give back to the community.

Participating in the Management Committee of LFIM seems to combine both my passion for contributing to the community while at the same time it is in line with my passion for education.'

*- Ken Cleeren, Secretary*



# CONSULAR VISITS

We had the great pleasure to welcome the new Consul General of France, Mr. Jean-Marc Séré-Charlet who honoured us with a visit a few days after his arrival in Mumbai. Accompanied by the Cooperation Attaché for the French Language - Mr Phillippe Guillien, he was able to discover our campus and exchange with the members of the school community.



In September, we welcomed the Deputy Consul, Mr. Sami Boukaze and in early October, the Counsellor for Cooperation and Cultural Action, Mr. Emmanuel Lebrun-Damiens accompanied by the Cooperation Attaché for Education in Delhi, Ms. Fatiha Kammoussi.

At the beginning of this school year, these visits show the commitment of the educational arm of the French presence in India. At LFIM, as in the 539 schools of the AEFÉ network around the world, we are, as always, determined to accompany our students on the path to excellence.





## GANPATI

When it comes to festivals, our students are wonderfully creative.

To celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi, the GS students took a novel approach. Using leaves and dabs of paint, they drew the elephant god on paper and created unique and eco-friendly works.

In CE1, the Ganapati was made with coloured papers, light touches of paint and glitter.





# DIWALI

Dressed in traditional clothes, the LFIM staff and students celebrated Diwali with a day full of activities, music and traditional food.

At the beginning of the morning, Anjali, our French as a Foreign Language teacher, gave a Sitar demonstration to our Kindergarten and Elementary students. Anjali plays the Sitar at a high level and participates in concerts. It was a great pleasure to listen to the beautiful and haunting sounds of this traditional instrument. The children were amazed to learn that the sitar had a resonator made of a...pumpkin! They also discovered the rhythmic cycle « teental » and counted the 16 beats together. The interactive session ended with a short concert.





Throughout the day, the teachers had planned a wide range of activities to keep the festive spirit alive.

The children stretched and flexed in yoga sessions with Aude, diyas were made with Ayesha using bangles, CDs, beads, battery operated tea lights and Fevicol.

The ground floor was decorated with Rangoli designs created with flowers and colours by the students under the guidance of Anne-Lise and Vidhi.

Mukund and Harsh also drew their Rangoli, as is the tradition every year.

The activities ended with a sampling of typical snacks such as banana chips, chaklis and Indian sweets.







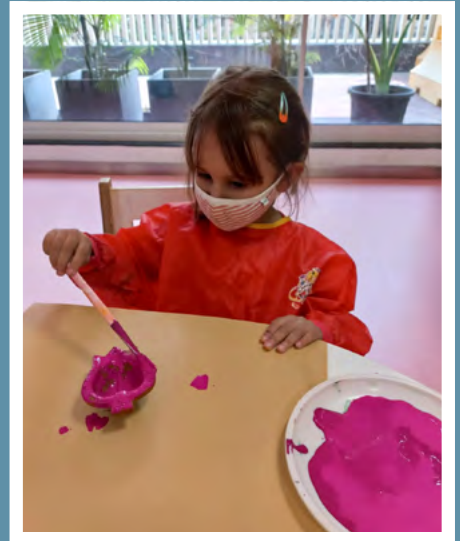


# SHINE BRIGHT

On Diwali, people light diyas. These beautiful diyas hold a deep significance and are symbolic of our journey to enlightenment. Lighting of diyas signifies getting rid of selfish thoughts.

The children of TPS-PS were given diyas to paint as painting aids children acquire hand eye coordination which is an important skill at their age. It helps children learn sizes, shapes, patterns and design. It also helps them to be creative and innovative and improves their academic excellence and visual independence.

*- Anshu, TPS-PS, English*



# ENTER, IF YOU DARE

After a gap of almost 2 years, the school held its Halloween Party to spooky joy.

Children and teachers dressed up, and we were able to meet witches, vampires, Harry Potter, Darth Vader, Spiderman, Batman, the Men in Black, Elsa, Maleficent, Lady Gaga, a mummy, several skeletons, fairies, princesses etc. Back in the classroom, the children participated in activities in the spirit of Halloween with their teachers. The Secondary students danced and continued the party on the 4th floor, to say goodbye to Myeisha and Neil to whom we wish a successful continuation in Pondicherry.

A big thank you to our parents who sent delicious snacks for everyone to gobble.





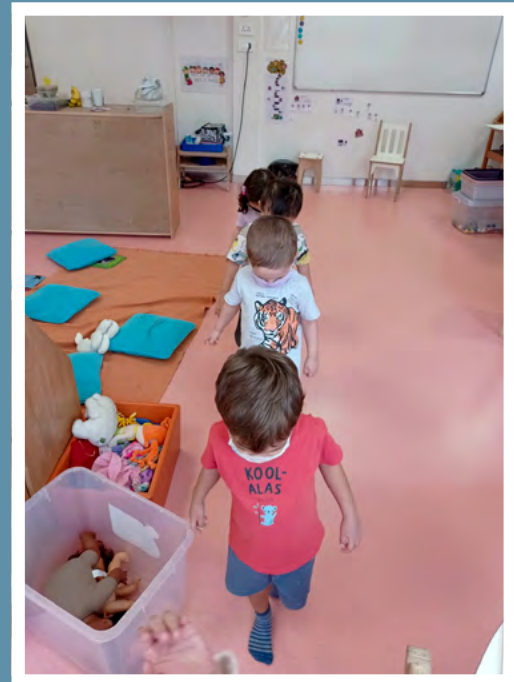


# FOLLOW THE LINE

After observing the portrait of French conceptual artist, painter, and sculptor Daniel Buren, the children in PS looked for other representations of vertical lines in the classroom. Stickers were made available. The children continued to trace a vertical line found on the floor by a child, using the stickers.

They ended up having fun following this line by walking on it while keeping their balance!

*- Delphine, TPS,PS/MS, French*







# FRIDA KAHLO

Magdalena Carmen Frida Kahlo y Calderón, also known as Frida Kahlo, was a Mexican painter known for her self-portraits and works inspired by the nature and objects of Mexico.

After a brief history of her life and an exhibition of her world-famous artworks, our young GS artists recreated her iconic self-portrait as true to human proportions as possible.

This activity emphasized the importance of attention to detail, as the portraits were made with every feature of her face in mind.



# READ WITH A FRIEND

In their English class, the second and third graders read stories to their first graders. Not only did this activity reinforce the first graders' desire to learn to read, but it also gave the children a visible lesson in the proper way to hold a book, practice their reading speed and the importance of pronouncing each word correctly.

Having the older children take them under their wing, this weekly activity is a source of comfort for the first graders, who are coming up from Kindergarten. It builds a special relationship between reader and listener, as the children share so much more than a story.





# SEEK THE POEM

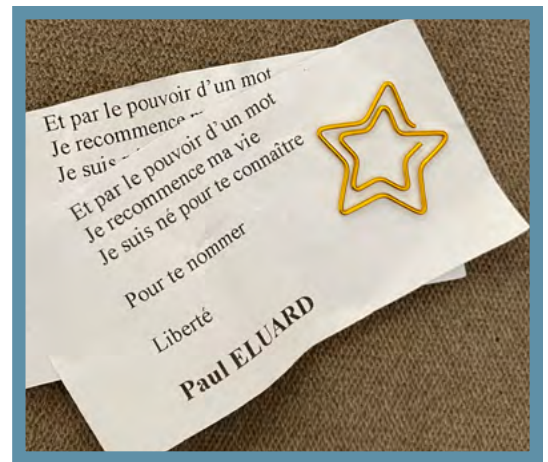
The CM1-CM2 took part in a poetic treasure hunt!

In search of the stanzas of a poem, the children went through all the floors of the school and received the precious little paper from each member of the staff. They met the kindergarten teachers, the secondary school teachers, the administration staff and the Principal.

Equipped with a map, they were able to discover all the rooms of our beautiful school and can already see themselves in high school!

In class, each team then reconstructed Paul Eluard's famous poem: Liberté.

*- Anne-Lise, CE2-CM1-CM2, French*



# FOCUS ON OUR PARENTS

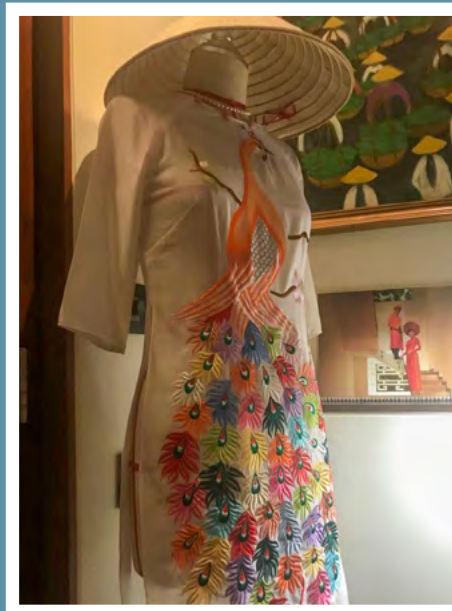
I have been in Mumbai since September 2020, with my husband, Stéphane, who runs the Alliance Française de Bombay and our son, Théo, who is in the 5th grade at LFIM.

I am of Vietnamese origin, from Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, the economic capital in southern Vietnam.

A trained fashion designer, I make my own creations, in particular evening dresses and Ao Dai, a traditional Vietnamese dress that comes in many versions, from classic to contemporary.

If my stays in Asia and France inspire my work, the discovery of India and its textiles is a beautiful encounter. I have only scratched the surface of what India has to offer and I look forward to the opportunity to travel to regions with a tradition of textile craftsmanship. No doubt some of these fabrics will find their way into my designs!

*- Minh, parent of LFIM*



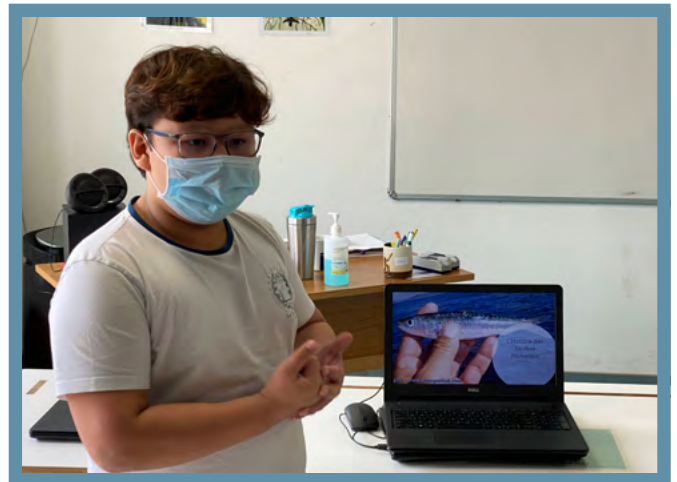


# OUR OWN INVENTORS

A basic human need to fill a void and simplify life creates a yearning to invent. The students of Grade 7 took a glimpse into some path breaking innovations of the last century that have become indispensable in our lives today – such as the watch, video games and even a tin can.

Hoping this helps foster the inner Newton / Marie Curie in our young students who go on to becoming innovators of the century.

- Nikeeta, Technology teacher



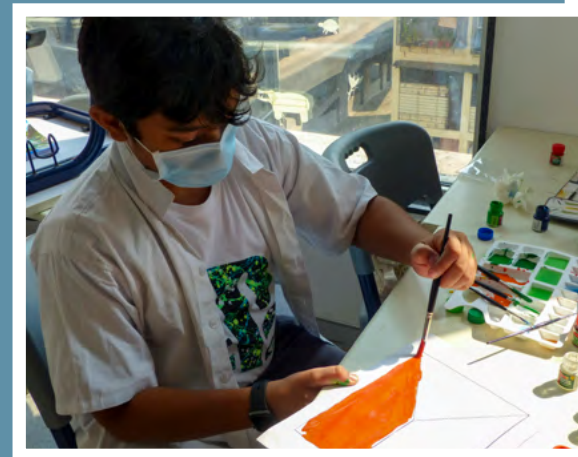
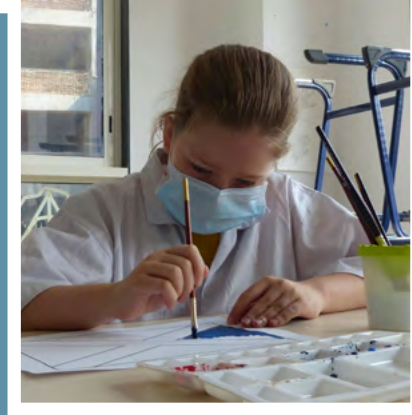
# FLAGS OF THE WORLD

In visual arts, our middle school students delved into the world of flags from around the world and set about decorating the walls with their flags.

To paint, it is essential to have a steady hand and to practice. In addition, to reproduce the original colours as faithfully as possible, you need to know how to mix and understand the science of colour. Needless to say, the students left a strong impression in their art class (literally and figuratively).

Legendary jazz musicians Gerry Mulligan and Chet Baker enlivened the class, their best-known works allowing the students to paint quietly while developing an ear for jazz music (colloquially referred to as “hotel music” by our dear students).

- Mihir, Art & Music teacher





# FREEDOM RUN

Fit India Movement conducted the Fit India Freedom Run 2.0 to encourage fitness and help us all bid adieu to stress and anxiety. The concept behind the run was “Anywhere, anytime!”.

Participants could either - run a route of their choice, at a time that suited them, break-up their runs or run their own race at their pace.

They could track their kms manually or by using any tracking app or GPS watch.

Students from CP, Elementary and Secondary, along with few school staff, participated and completed their race during their respective classes.

*- Pawan, Sports teacher*

