



LIGHTHOUSE



BY BCGIANS, FOR BCGIANS

We have come to the close of yet another eventful year. This issue encompasses the beautiful memories of the year 2024 - a year in which we learned to be expressive, to be kind, and to be appreciative of all the things that life had to offer. Many people have helped us in one way or the other, and many times we have been the reason for someone's smile. The year has brought with it its share of challenges too. However, new challenges brought in new ways to tackle them. It would be wonderful if each one of us sat back and reflected on the year and the events that made it memorable, as doing so can help us appreciate the good times, the lessons learned, and how they have contributed to our growth.

When we look back, this year also highlighted the humanitarian work of individuals around the world. One such great personality we honour is philanthropist and industrialist, Shri Ratan Tata.

His priceless contributions and service to our nation will forever be remembered, inspiring generations to come. His legacy of kindness, compassion, and dedication to the greater good will remain a guiding light for all.

On this note, let's look forward to bringing in yet another new year - full of hopes, dreams, and new learnings.

Best wishes for the New Year!

By the Editorial Team



GRATITUDE AND TRIUMPH: MY JOURNEY TO TOPPING GRADE 5 CHECKPOINT EXAMS

I was thrilled to learn that I had topped the Grade 5 checkpoint exams in Math and English, in 2024, with a perfect 100% in Math as the highlight. This achievement made me reflect on the incredible support from my teachers, parents, and loved ones throughout the year. I'm deeply grateful for their encouragement, patience, and dedication, especially when I needed help most.

A huge thank you to my teachers for their guidance and belief in me, and my family and friends. Their faith in me truly

made all the difference. This accomplishment is a reflection of their commitment to my success.

I'm proud of what I've achieved this year, and this success motivates me to continue striving for excellence next year. It has strengthened my confidence and determination to reach even greater heights in 2025.

Submitted by Saisha Salian
Grade 6, BCISW



HOW I FEEL ABOUT THE CHANGE IN SEASONS: SPRING TO WINTER

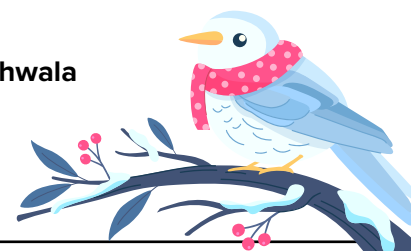
The shift between spring to winter symbolizes that each season has its unique qualities and challenges. We need to embrace that change and live in the moment enjoying each aspect of all the seasons. There's a famous saying, "In the springtime, the heart regrows hope". Spring's vibrant blooms and joyful atmosphere invigorate my emotions. In 2025, it will also mark the end of 7th grade.

Even though summer is the hottest season of all the other seasons, it is unique in its way. I cherish carefree moments in vacations, savoring ice cream, and living in the present. But trust me, the monsoon has an amazing vibe. When my school reopens, I'm excited to see my friends and

participate in the creative activities my teachers have in store.

Although it's hard to wake up in the morning during winter, it's magic brings joy! Waiting for the bus amidst the chilly atmosphere feels like a special treat. Every season is special in its way and I love them all. As I look back, I am grateful for the memories and lessons learned during each season.

Submitted by Jauharat Badwawala
Grade 7, BCISE



CONNECTING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Every year, the event all students eagerly anticipate is the field trips, school picnic and camp. It's a day brimming with excitement, laughter, and a liberating break from the usual school routine. It is never about the destination; it is about the journey and the unforgettable memories we create along the way!

Field trips have always been my favorite, offering a chance to bring classroom lessons to life and connect with them on a deeper level. The first time I went on an overnight camp, I was thrilled to my core, and from that moment on, I made sure never to miss a single camp again. It was here that I truly understood the power of teamwork—overcoming challenges together, building trust, and offering support in unexpected ways. The camp pushed me out of my comfort zone, teaching me resilience as I faced new situations. I discovered a sense of independence, realizing that I could handle challenges on my own. But perhaps most importantly, the camp showed me the beauty of living in the moment, cherishing each second and wishing the day would never end...

It was a place where friendships deepened, and memories were etched into the heart forever. Indeed, it was a profound reminder of what truly matters—connection, adventure, and the priceless moments we often take for granted.

Submitted by Manya Poojary
Grade 10, VBSIS



INDIA'S T20 TRIUMPH: RELIVING THE MAGIC OF THE 2024 ICC T20 WORLD CUP

The year 2024 will be etched in the memories of Indian cricket fans forever, as the Men in Blue scripted a thrilling victory in the ICC T20 World Cup. The tournament, which saw the best of international cricket converge on the world stage, was a testament to India's unwavering passion, great spirit, and unmatched skill. India's path to glory was paved with convincing wins, nail-biting finishes, and a dash of luck. The team, led by the fearless Rohit Sharma showed remarkable resilience and adaptability throughout the tournament. India's players demonstrated their mettle.

The Final will be remembered for generations to come. India, fuelled by the energetic crowd, took on the opponent in a battle for supremacy. The match was a cliffhanger. In the end, India's brilliance shone through, as they emerged victorious by 7 runs. The Indian team celebrated their T20 World Cup 2024 victory in style with a specially arranged open-bus parade through Marine Drive and then celebrated with fans inside the Wankhede Stadium who waited to display their immense gratitude towards the heroes. It also recorded the heartbreaking announcement of the retirement of two legends Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli from T20 cricket.

As the team sets its sights on new challenges and conquests one thing remains certain – the team will continue to inspire, entertain, and unite the nation.

Submitted by Hiimank Shetty
Std. 8, DSRVM



2024 - MOVIE REVIEW

'Srikanth'

The biopic, directed by Tushar Hiranandani, and released on 10th May 2024, portrays the life of Srikanth Bolla, an industrialist who fearlessly pursued his dreams despite his visual impairment and founded Bollant Industries.

The film breaks stereotypes as it offers a refreshing perspective on the capabilities of individuals with challenges, and drives home a message that people deserve equality in all aspects of life. It is filled with moments of heart-wrenching drama, and humour. At the heart of this film is Rajkumar Rao, who masterfully embodies Srikanth. Sharad Kelkar & Jyothika deliver strong performances that enhance the story's emotional & inspirational undertones.

'Srikanth' serves as a source of motivation and encourages people to reflect on their understanding of ability and ambition. Bollywood should make more films like this which focus on such eminent personalities, those who are lesser-known by the audience but whose stories would inspire millions.

Do give it a watch.

Submitted by Dhiya Desai
Std. 8, DSRVM



REMINISCENT BACKPACKS: THE ENCHANTMENT OF SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

School outdoor excursions were like troves of knowledge, fun, and life-changing experiences. Every journey had its own unique experience, whether it was trekking through lush forests, observing wildlife, or sharing refreshments at a picnic. Trekking in the sweltering sun taught me fortitude, setting up a tent taught me collaboration, and spending quiet time beneath the stars gave me a strong sense of connection to the natural world. These travels taught me how to trust others, adjust to new situations, and welcome the unexpected lessons that no textbook could ever provide. In addition, they helped me form lasting connections and provided me with priceless memories. The laughter around campfires, the excitement of learning something new, and the delight of shared adventures made every excursion a tiny adventure, transforming the everyday school. These school journeys taught me that the finest lessons are frequently learned outside of the classroom, amid action-packed activities.

Submitted by Raneem Solkar
Grade 10, VBSIS



SEASONAL JOURNEY OF NEW BEGINNINGS, LOVE, HOPE, AND FAMILY

Spring, in Mumbai, is a beautiful season. The city comes alive with vibrant colors, as trees bloom and flowers blossom. The weather is pleasant, and the evenings are perfect for outdoor activities. The classroom is filled with excitement as we prepare for the summer vacations.

Summer, with its scorching heat and long vacations, is a time for relaxation and fun. We spend our days swimming, playing outdoor games, and enjoying delicious summer treats like chilled popsicles while friends connect through the vast digital world, during the summer break.

In monsoon, the city transforms into a lush green paradise, with heavy rains and cool breeze. As a student, I enjoy spending rainy days indoors, snuggling with a blanket and a book or indulging in board games with my family. Virtual classes become a frequent part of our routine, allowing us to continue our learning journey despite the unpleasant weather. Winter, however, is my absolute favourite. The chilly weather, comfy sweaters, and festive celebrations make it seem quite magical. The classroom is adorned with festive decorations on the flannel board, and we participate in various winter-themed activities. The winter break provides a much-needed respite, allowing us to spend quality time with family and friends.

Seasons teach us to adapt to change. Change for a Better Tomorrow. Change for a better Me in many ways.

Submitted by Dhriti Naik
Grade 7, BCISE



A MARCH PAST TO REMEMBER!

On India's Independence Day, our school hosted a vibrant celebration brimming with patriotic fervour. My house, the ABHAY House, participated in the March Past, a highly competitive event among all houses. The competition was intense, and I never expected us to win, as every house gave their best effort.

On the big day, everything came together perfectly. Our team marched in flawless sync, our uniforms sharp, and our spirits soaring. It was unbelievable. The precision of our movements, the enthusiasm we carried, and the unity we shared made all the difference. When the results were announced, the Abhay House emerged victorious, winning the Best March Past award. It was an unexpected yet unforgettable moment of pride, teamwork, and joy that I will always treasure as Abhay House Captain.

Submitted by Rohan Kamath
Grade 9, DSRISB



AN UNEXPECTED WIN: NEW FRIENDSHIPS

This year I experienced an unexpected but heartwarming win: building meaningful new friendships. Initially, I wasn't focused on meeting new people, because life felt busy and I had a hectic schedule. However, that changed when I joined tutorials to support my studies. At first, I discussed homework with my peers, but it soon turned into a meaningful connection. Through shared interests, hobbies, and laughter-filled conversations, I was surrounded by genuine individuals. These friendships brought a lot of joy and support into my life. This experience taught me that trying new things can often lead to something wonderful. It also reminded me that the best friendships often happen when you're not looking for them.

Submitted by Anushka Chawathey
Grade 9, DSRISB



WHAT MY OUTDOOR SCHOOL TRIP TAUGHT ME

Outdoor school trips provide important lessons for life. I recently attended a camp where we participated in activities such as bridge climbing, trekking, and crossing rivers. These adventure activities increased our confidence as we faced our fears together. Being in a single room with friends enhanced our bond and highlighted the value of teamwork. Activities such as preparing food and arranging the campsite became simpler due to our teamwork. Encircled by nature, we were reminded of its significance and the necessity to protect it. The journey was more than enjoyable; it provided an opportunity to acquire new abilities and have experiences that we will cherish forever.

Submitted by Mohammed Atif Shaikh
Grade 10, VBSIS



GRATEFUL REFLECTIONS ON 2024

School Achievements

This year, I am grateful for learning new things at school, guided by my supportive teachers, especially my class teacher. My proudest achievement was publishing my very own book and scoring excellent grades, which brought me immense pride and happiness.

Family Moments

One of the best parts of 2024 was spending quality time with my family. Our trip to Dubai was unforgettable—I visited incredible places like Burj Khalifa, Desert Safari, Miracle Garden, and more. I am thankful for the fun memories we shared and my parents' constant love and care.

Friendship

I feel lucky to have wonderful friends who made me laugh, played with me, and supported me. They brightened my year and made it extra special.

Health and Safety

Good health and safety were blessings I deeply appreciate. I'm thankful to my family for always looking after me.

New Experiences

Starting secondary school and experiencing morning classes was a big, exciting change that I loved.

Helping Others

Helping friends, family, and others brought me joy and taught me the value of kindness.

Looking Ahead to 2025

Thank you, 2024, for an incredible year. I look forward to 2025, hoping for even more adventures and success!

Submitted by **Ayaan Dawray**
Grade 6, BCISW



INTERESTING READ

Did you know there are some unique days commemorated in December? Check this out:

3rd December:

International Day for Persons with Disabilities

This day raises awareness and aims to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society, i.e. education, employment, health, participation in society, etc. Let us work together to demonstrate respect and make all our classmates feel safe and included regardless of their ability.



human rights.

11th December:

International Mountain Day

This is to educate children and people about the role that mountains play in providing fresh water, clean energy, food, and recreation. International Mountain Day, celebrated since 2003, raises awareness about the importance of mountains, highlights the challenges and opportunities in mountain development, and encourages efforts to improve the lives of mountain communities and protect mountain environments. Are you ready to take the journey to the mountains on your vacation?



5th December:

International Volunteer Day and World Soil Day

International Volunteer Day provides a chance to celebrate the hard work and values of volunteers and their organizations like the Red Cross, the Peace Corps, etc.

World Soil Day is to remind people about the importance of soil, healthy ecosystems, and human well-being. Do you know, this year, the theme was - "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage."



14th December:

National Energy Conservation Day

It is observed to raise awareness about the need for energy and its conservation in daily life. Let's do our bit and turn off the extra lights, and the electrical appliances, when not in use!

These days are a reminder to us to care for the planet and each other!

10th December:

Human Rights Day

This day honors the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, promoting EQUALITY AND DIGNITY FOR ALL. The 2024 theme is a call to acknowledge the importance and relevance of human rights in our everyday lives. We have an opportunity to change perceptions by speaking up against hate speech, correcting misinformation and countering disinformation. This is the time to mobilize action to strengthen a global movement for



Source: Internet, <https://www.un.org/>



UNSCRAMBLE THE CHRISTMAS WORDS

1 TNASA	2 SLEBL	3 EREERDNI
4 TSNEESPR	5 TEMILOTSE	
6 YDNCA	7 TRESNEMORNA	8 WLFSNOAKE
9 CKISNOGT	10 SHMATRICS	

Answers: 1. SANTA 2. BELLS 3. REINDEER 4. PRESENTS 5. MISTLETOE
6. CANDY 7. ORNAMENTS 8. SNOWFLAKE 9. STOCKING 10. CHRISTMAS

WHO AM I????

1. What can be cracked, made, told, and played?
2. What is always in front of you but can't be seen?
3. I have keys but no locks. I have space but no room. You can enter, but you can't go outside.
4. What has hands but can't clap?
5. The more you take, the more you leave behind.

Answer: 1. A joke 2. The future 3. A keyboard 4. A clock 5. Footsteps

REBUS PUZZLES

Can you guess the words and expressions?

MIY LIHIFIE	Get it Get it Get it Get it	Try $\frac{\text{stand}}{2}$	TRAVEL ----- CCCCCCC	FAST	T O W N
EYE EYE	father 	ONCE 	POT OO OO OO OO	D movie D movie D movie	SECRET ← SECRET SECRET

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. For once in my life (four ones in my life) | 4. Travel overseas or overseas travel | 6. Downtown | 3. Try to understand |
| 10. Potatoes (pot 8 O's) | 7. Eyeshadow | 5. Breakfast | 2. Forget it |
| 11. 3D movie | 8. Stepfather | 9. Once upon a time | |
| 12. Top secret | | | |

CELEBRATING THE ILLUSTRIOUS BCG ALUMNI

Dream Big – Set Goals – Take Action



Shraddha Jayvany Kale
Batch of 2009

Regional Chief Information Security Officer (Cybersecurity Officer) Asia and India,
Legrand India

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Submitted by Pankhuri Mehrotra
Grade 9, VBSIS

SCHOOL CORNER



Dear Students,

I would like to share a special incident that shows the power of compassion and sensitivity. There was a student who had no friends in the class and had a hard time expressing his feelings. So, he often kept quiet most of the time and barely interacted with his classmates or any teacher. This made it difficult for him to connect with others.

However, his classmates noticed this. Rather than allowing him to isolate himself, they reached out to him. They started engaging him in more conversations and invited him to join them in activities and groups. They listened when he had something to say and encouraged him often, like when he would give the correct answer or a piece of extra information during the class. When he needed help, they made sure they provided it.

Over time, we noticed a change - his behaviour started to improve - he became more confident, and communicative. He participated in group activities, laughed with his classmates, and gradually became more comfortable in expressing himself.

This was a lovely example of how compassion and sensitivity can make a big difference to someone. It reminds us all that these small actions can create a supportive and caring environment for anyone and everyone. This incident also reflects the values we hope each one of you will cultivate — empathy, kindness, and the desire to help one another.

Let's continue to watch out for each other and remember that these little gestures of sensitivity and compassion can have a huge impact.

Take care of yourself as well as others around you.

Thank you!

Ms. Kshama Anedath
Teacher – Primary Section
VBSIS – VBSV



Did you like our newsletter? Do send your feedback and share your stories of positivity in real life.
Be a part of the movement to build a positive and a harmonious society
Write to us at lighthouse.bcg@gmail.com