

# EXCELSIOR

*Ever Upward*



ಲೋಕಾ: ಸಮಸ್ತಾ: ಸುಖಿನೋ ಭವಂತು  
लोका: समस्ता: सुखिनो भवन्तु  
Lokah Samastah Sukhino Bhavantu

“Time is precious and cannot be restored. Establish an education model such that pandemic or not, we keep our learning and move ahead. We found out by 'learning and doing' that online classes are possible. With such a long duration of our children away from schools, we must ensure the social aspects of education. Social skills are core and must be given equal importance in online learning-teaching.”

- **Prof. M H Dhananjaya**  
(Chairman)



“Human nature is not to give up. It is to fight back! You win or do something extraordinary when there are restraints and challenges! Teachers showed courage, commitment and passion to conduct classes and be creative in spite of all the challenges during this pandemic. Sharing your learning gets better when more of the children and overall community can benefit with what you originated.”

- **Mr. D Sudhanva**  
(Secretary)



“We don't talk much about what we do. Our deep empathy for our community enabled us to reach out and help those in need. It takes effort to create good. On succeeding despite obstacles, it becomes a shareable joy as we explore possibilities beyond what we thought we could. This consolidated view to our efforts is our next step to stabilize the learning ecosystem to track, measure and improvise.”

- **Mr. H M Prashanth**  
(Correspondent)



Dear students, each of us felt the physical absence of you on campus as we started every morning with the school prayer song.

Dear parents, your support has been our strength. All the events back in time on campus were joyful because of your vibrant presence. In this pandemic you gave your moral support and kept us aligned to the collective nurturing of our students by embracing our voices in your homes. You stood with us and gracefully helped us to handle the challenges. Your trust, regular feedback and notes of appreciation encouraged us to do better.

As the global leaders identified the world we live in as VUCA (volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous), we at EPS embraced every day with a stance to nurture growth and development in our students through humane values, deep commitment in optimizing technology and pedagogy, and providing inclusive learning through love and compassion.

As we immersed ourselves in learning new tools and techniques to make online learning seamless and effective, each of us deeply reverberated with wellness prayer in our thoughts and actions.

This newsletter is to give a glimpse into how the EPS learning community managed to survive and paved ways for our learners to soar high!

A recapitulation of our teamwork at EPS during this toughest phase of collectively dealing with pandemic and keeping faith in learning above and beyond!

- **Mr. Mathew KG**  
(Principal)



## Technology and Pedagogy

The purpose of education is to help the students develop skills and attitudes such as critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, empathy, and ability to lead a purposeful life in coherence of contributing to the well-being of self and others.

As parents, you continued being the first teachers for your children. With technology, pedagogy, and you, along with our dedicated teachers, we collectively embraced all the challenges.



All the pedagogical practices at EPS revolve and evolve around constructivism and experiential learning. This helps the students become self-directed and lifelong learners.

As per Jean Piaget, knowledge is produced in the learner's mind while organizing experiences and cognitive structures. According to Vygotsky, knowledge is produced through social and cultural interactions.

Powered by EXCELSOFT, we optimized on the state-of-the-art technology and proven pedagogy to make online learning effective and engaging. With Constructivist Pedagogy at the core, we inculcated the approaches of Collaborative, Enquiry-Based, Reflective and Integrative Learning!

"Learning never exhausts the mind." -Leonardo da Vinci

## For New Age Learning

We also incorporated pedagogy such as



Connectivism



Reflexive



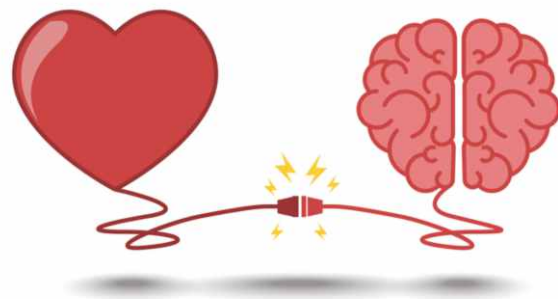
Transformative

It is about sharing and collaborating and making connections to the new learning coming our way. Learners are positioned to be designers of their own knowledge.

The focus is on the learner and learning.

By encouraging learners to build their own knowledge in a supportive learning environment we develop capabilities to work with others in knowledge-making relationships (peers, parents, and community members).

By extending the breadth and scope of their education beyond the walls of the traditional classroom, we nurture them to be the drivers of their meaning-making and learning to contribute to the world's betterment.



## With learner-centered and experiential learning across all the grades.



The Experiential Learning Cycle begins with concrete experience; followed by reflective observation of the experience, abstract conceptualization of what was learned, and the application of new learning via active experimentation.

Versatile approaches to satiate our students' learning needs.

Flipped classroom is a “pedagogical approach in which direct instruction moves from the group learning space to the individual learning space, and the resulting group space is transformed into a dynamic, interactive learning environment where the educator guides students as they apply concepts and engage creatively in the subject matter” (The Flipped Learning Network, 2014).

Multilingual: Through home language references this is an essential way to deepen vocabulary, comprehension and conceptual understanding.

Dialogic: This is a way to optimize on the power of talk with the intent to nurture thinking, learning and understanding. This approach helps to make language a tool for learning and problem solving.

Storytelling: This is a very effective way to create a cohesive understanding through narratives, shared experiences and perspective making.

Here's a snapshot of the approaches we successfully applied



“Creativity is as important as literacy.” - Sir Ken Robinson

Learning has moved toward being a more interactive and collaborative approach in which students/teachers co-create the learning process. The teacher's role has changed from the *sage on the stage* to the *guide on the side*.

## Digital Education Tools

A variety of tools and technologies were/are used in the different phases of teaching and learning.

### Our own... K12 LMS

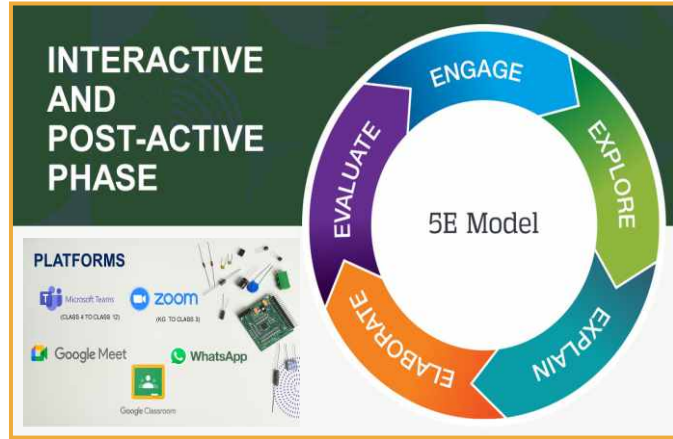
Adaptability is the simple secret of success. Every crisis creates an opportunity to learn. Our school is tech-driven, and its implementation is maximized in this mode of online learning. With resilience, teachers kept learning how to learn new tools and techniques. The integration of online sessions through LMS made the process of teaching and learning easy, convenient, reliable, and secure for all the stakeholders.





## Our 5E Model

During the interactive and post interactive phase a wide range of tools were used for appropriate online engagement. We have included some prominent tools that were used in the different stages of teaching and learning.



### ENGAGE

padlet | Mentimeter

Typeform | miro

### EXPLORE

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY

ck-12 | PhET INTERACTIVE SIMULATIONS

GeoGebra | Wordwall

### EXPLAIN

Jamboard | Storyboard | wacom

### ELABORATE

wakelet | TIN KER CAD

O:LABS | Virtual Labs (An MHRD Govt of India Initiative) | story weaver

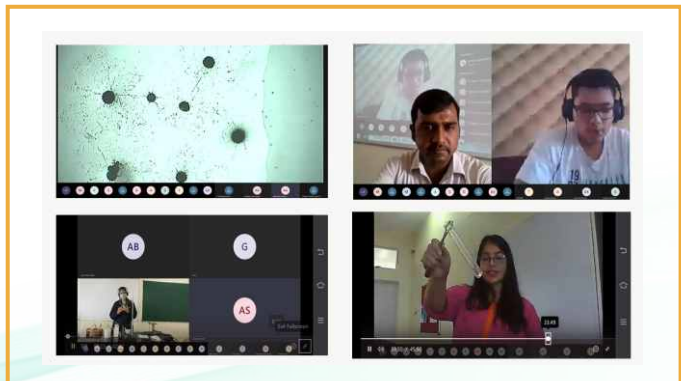
### EVALUATION

Google Forms | Google Docs | Google Sheets

slido | Kahoot! | QUIZZZ | Flipgrid

Through the virtual platform we were able to make use of our labs to demonstrate experiments to our students throughout the year.

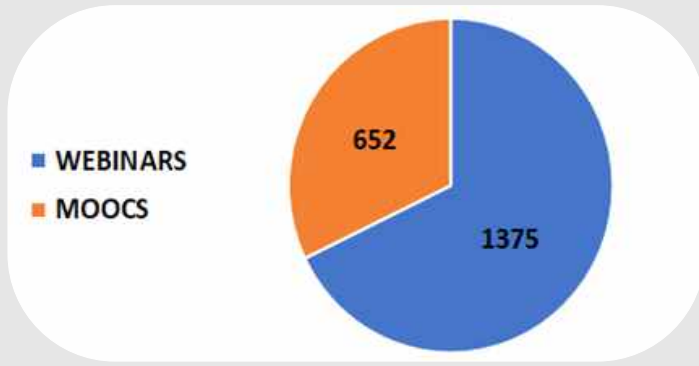
The exploration of tools and techniques has no limits and the journey of learning continues. As teachers, we will surely equip ourselves with more tools and techniques to enhance the online engagement and even learning back on campus.



## Faculty Development

Professional Development of Teachers in this pandemic academic year has been immersive and expansive! Various platforms were optimized to keep up with teaching-learning needs.

Along with periodic in-house training events, our teachers continued learning through online programs. With shifting paradigms, it became imperative for teachers to be continually re-skilling and up-skilling.



The NCERT and CBSE organized a series of certificate programs to empower teachers in various areas. Duration of the courses ranged from 1-8 weeks. Most of the teachers completed these courses in relevance to their field of teaching.

Some of the training we immersed in learning were:

Emotional Schooling for Enhanced Classroom Processes

Experiential Learning

Happy Teachers Create Happy Spaces

Competency Based Education

21st Century skills

Constructivism

Goal-setting

Outcome-based Learning

Adobe Spark

Art Integration in Teaching and Learning

Design Thinking

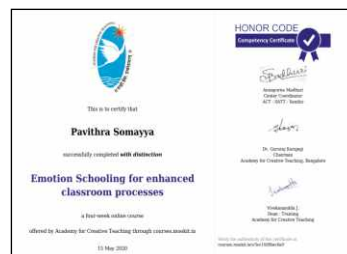
Intellectual Property Right

Learning How to Learn

Transition from Classroom to Online

Teaching Management during Pandemic

ICT - Tools and Strategies



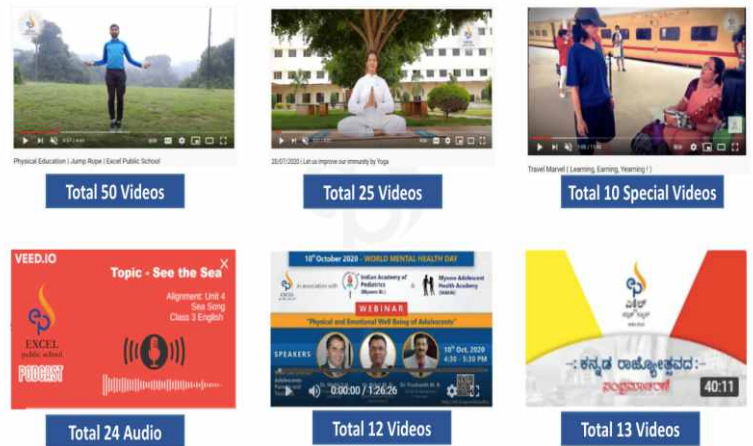
## Learn Zone

Our in-house Digital Production Team made it possible for us to serve learners at EPS and beyond.

The number of hits to our YouTube Channel has been exponential. Our channel has close to 9.34K subscribers now! Before this pandemic academic year, we had less than 1000. Two-thirds of the subscribers of our channel are non-parents, and they are spread across the globe. Just in the last one month alone, our channel had one-lakh forty thousand visitors, which shows its popularity and relevance even during the summer break.



Digital contents were made available for the primary classes on all subjects, aligned with the topics covered in the classrooms. In addition to subject specific videos, we released a good number of videos on yoga, physical education, art, craft, dance and music for students to practice at home.



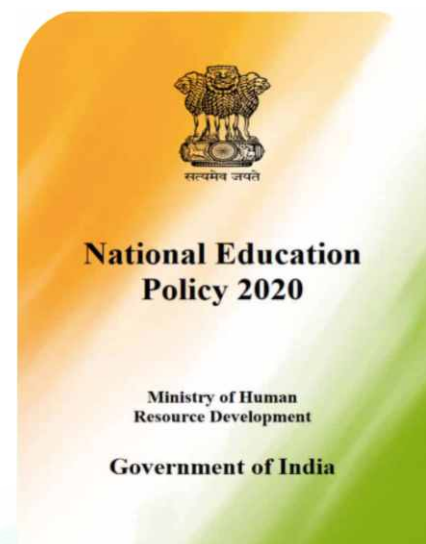
To reduce the screen time and keep the online learning intact, we created audio lessons and podcasts. Our in-house webinar recordings were also made available for self paced access. The celebration videos were specially planned and produced for us to share the collective joy of important occasions of our region and nation.

## NEP 2020 School Education-Curriculum and Pedagogy

The EPS teaching community is a trailblazer in spearheading innovative learning.

We are completely in resonance with NEP recommendations and ahead in mastery skills development through "learning by doing" and "competency alignment".

EPS teachers are a source of knowledge in fostering transformational learning in our students. Teachers are regularly trained to meet every student's need and to carve new paths forward.





## Assessment/Evaluation/Reporting of Student Learning

We looked at assessment and evaluation with a dual purpose – as a mechanism to chronicle student learning and to measure the effectiveness of teaching-learning activities.

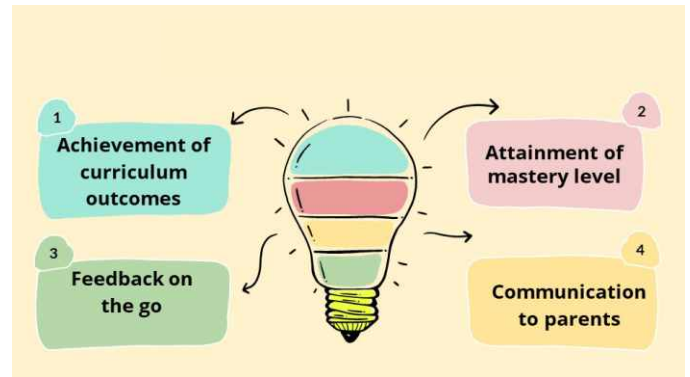
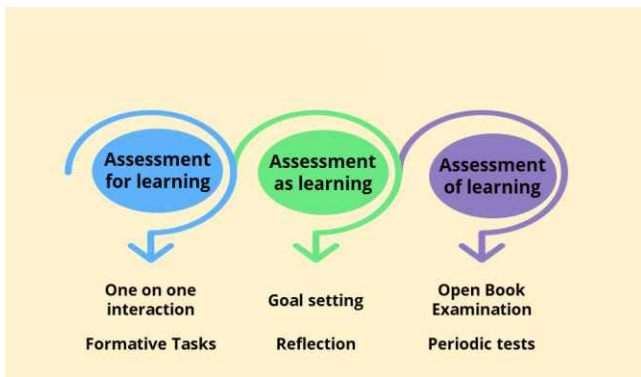
It was diagnostic in nature with ample scope for remediation and improvement. Multiple strategies were incorporated to make it fair and equitable.

Students were helped to set individual goals, monitor their progress, and reflect on their learning. Mentor-mentee programme with a 1:15 ratio helped to a great extent.

Ample handholding was provided for ease of transition to online exams.

### Modes of assessment

### Purpose



Innumerable modes of formative assessment tasks were conducted:

Quiz, role-play, gaming, lab activities, projects, podcasts, portfolios, travelogues, infographics, debates, poster making, poem writing.

Nothing stopped us from coming up with the best ideas to engage our young learners.

We conducted various activities throughout the year.



CBSE EXPRESSION SERIES

574 students participated

We had various events conducted virtually for our tiny tots like Creating Paper Bag, Cooking Without Fire, Eco-friendly Ganesha Making, EPS Talent Show, Letter-writing, Book Club and Gratitude Acts for the community helpers.

## Co-Curricular Activities

CCA Competitions to Nurture Holistic Development  
Classes 3 and 4: Make Best out of Waste, Classical and Western singing competition, Elocution, Yoga, Mono-Acting and Dance Competitions.

Classes 5 to 8: Writing Beyond Everything, Talking Titans, Joy of imagination and expression.

Classes 9 and 10: Folk beats, Standup comedy, Podcast Broadcast.



"Success is love for what you are doing or learning to do."



### Intra School Competition

Future Impact collaborated with Excel Public School.

18 speakers from our school participated with amazing enthusiasm and spirit.

Even though the times had come to a standstill, our students made the most of it by participating and showcasing their talents by taking part in various interschool competitions.

### National Recognition

**Aryan Kini** of grade 6 secured 'India International Sarabhai Student Scientist Award. 14 students from XI- XII competed in the WISTERIA EXPRESS hosted by Chennai Public School.

**Charith Gowda**, a student of class X, became the undaunted champion of the wheels, winning gold medals in the National MTB Cycling competition for three consecutive years.

**Sukhi Kumaran** of class 10 is a Winner of Under Armour Challenge conducted by NBA India in partnership with Reliance Foundation Jr NBA to identify the best blindfold dribbler.

### International Recognition

Our students participated in an essay event conducted and organized by Shri Ram Chandra Mission (SRCM) in collaboration with the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) for India and Bhutan & Heartfulness Education Trust.

**Anish**, a 12th grade student has been selected by the Junior Academy, an initiative of New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) Global STEM Alliance (GSA) into its fifth cohort. Anish is one among 900 students from 64 countries and his area of exploration centered on intelligent homes and health challenge that can improve human life.



# Celebrations at EPS



Independence Day



Women's Day



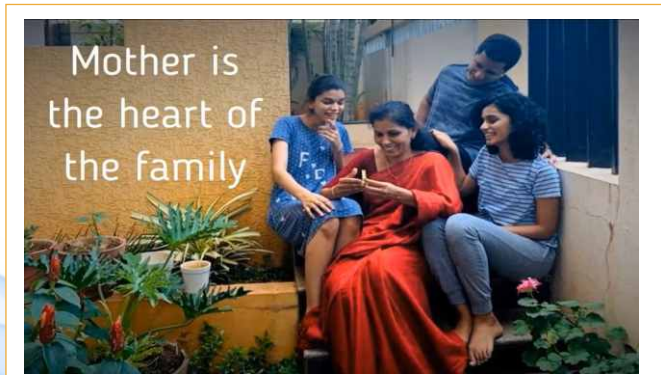
Kannada Rajyotsva



Teacher's Day



Shakti Swaroopini Devi – An Ode to the Goddess



Mother's Day



International Yoga Day





National Science Day



World Water Day



Children's Day



International Mother Tongue Day



Nudisambrama

## Teachers won accolades!

We recognize learning as a social process.



**Ms. Greeshma Colombus, Ms. Lekha Nair and Ms. Maria Ashwini** were honoured as Corona Warriors at a virtual ceremony hosted by the IIHM, Bangalore on account of the Teacher's Day.

**Mr. Mathew KG** was a guest speaker in a webinar on "Education 4.0-Role of teachers in changing times." organized by School of skills and Nidaan on September 5th.

**Mr. Mathew KG** was also a guest speaker in a webinar on 'Principles for Principals-A tribute to Sir Ken Robinson' held on 19th September organized by Veda Handwriting Lab.

**Dr. Amita Saxena** was a guest speaker in a "GyaanVigyaan" webinar series on "Exam preparation without stress" held on 7th March organized by Podar Group of Institution.



A journey of 1000 miles starts with a single step.

"Learning is not the product of teaching. Learning is the product of the activity of learners." – John Holt

## Learning Beyond School!

Making learning multi-sensory, effective experiential learning engages learners with real-world scenarios that help them contextualize their learning and understand the challenges in solving problems.



The Innovation Centre at EPS promotes 21st century learning skills like critical thinking, creative thinking, and problem solving abilities in our students. The projects and challenges taken up have helped our students to be a researcher, a good team player and above all an empowered citizen who wants to contribute to the betterment of the society and world around.



## Training Sessions

**Coding and Drone Sessions** led by Mr. Anurag Joshi from Indrone Aerosystem.

**Plezmo App Development** program in collaboration with ATL.

**Robotics** weekly sessions on assembly and coding conducted by Mr. Jagadeesh.

A series of webinars on fundamentals of science named **Let's Talk Science.Chatterati** was a series of conversations with Subject Matter Experts from Ms. Chitra and team to explore questions in field of pure science.

**Space Debris** was an interactive session with students with the objective of knowing Digantara and its role in managing space debris.

**Imaginarium India** was a session on the art of making things digitally by Dr. Guruprasad.

**The Great Conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn** was an in-house streaming and commentary session by Mr. Kiran Prasad.



Some of the challenges taken up by our students were:

**YIC (Young Inventors Challenge)** – An innovation challenge from idea to prototype with virtual viva session.

**Vickathon Challenge** – An international virtual hackathon challenge on innovation where students from Israel, Hongkong, China and India participated and won glories.

**Biz Champ** – A 9 to 6-championship league on playing the business game using CAPSIM tool.

**ATL Community Day Challenge** – A gaming challenge focusing on societal impact.

**ATL Marathon** – A flagship project of ATL on design thinking. The projects that were taken up were under the pillars of economy, infrastructure, demography, and demand.

**International Innovation Summit (Imagivation)** – Where workshops on being an innovation ambassador is conducted which is still in progress.

**Diplomathon** – A student diplomacy conference.

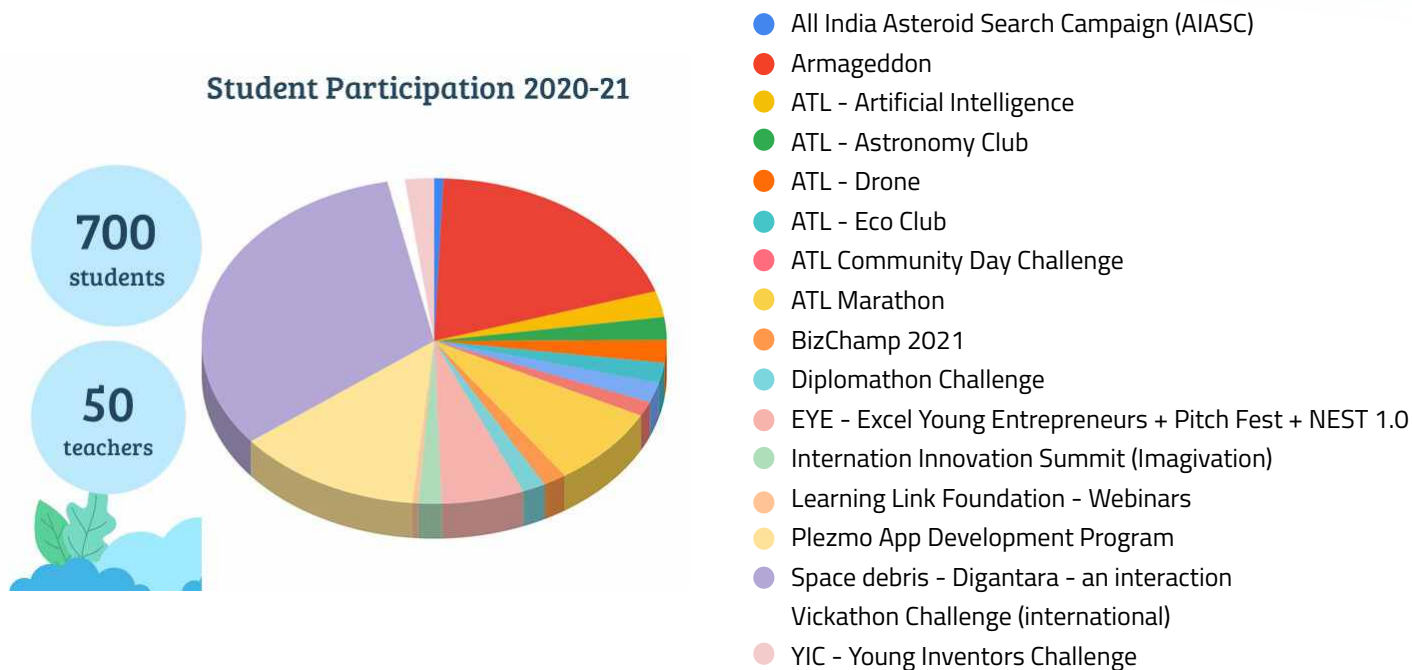


### The ongoing projects:

ATL – Tinkerpreneur, Young Tycoons Business challenge, All India Asteroid Search Campaign and Project development program by New York Academy of Sciences.

## Student Participation 2020-21

We can do anything great and useful together.



EPS was also selected ATL School of the month for three consecutive months in 2020 that is the month of Aug-Sep-Oct.

At regional level- one of our students won the Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan competition.

At national level - two of our students won the Inspire Manak Award.

One of our students was awarded as the best performer at ATL community Day Challenge. One of our student's from class XII has been a Patent Pending Technology under Intel-CBSE Pan India #AI4Youth

At international level - our students participated and won honors in Young Inventor's Challenge and Vickathon.

## Shared Learning is nurtured holistically at our EPS involving Parents and Experts.



## Parents Involvement

Partnership with parents and experts in the teaching-learning process has a positive influence on the grades, behavior, attendance, social-emotional and leadership skills.

We embraced the NEP 2020 and CBSE initiatives very well. Further we customized these to suit the EPS culture of parent involvement. It has been our core practice to have parents be our equal partners in nurturing our children.

AAC was designed by NCERT to ensure uniformity in learning in all CBSE schools. To maximize transparency with parents aligned to Competency Based Education, we customized the AAC and shared periodically with parents through broadcast groups.

PTMs were conducted for us to communicate, connect, and collaborate. This helped parents understand lesson plans and path forwards with a clear medium of communication.

The activities we planned for parents and family members were great fun for all of us. A few activities that we had were:

**Family Talent Show:** This activity was organized mainly for the parents of students studying in Classes 1 and 2. They had the option of staging a comedy set or playing a musical instrument etc. The videos they sent were compiled and shared with the parents through Broadcast group. 154 parents participated in this programme.

**Kannada Katha Samaya:** Here parents were asked to narrate and record stories based on themes assigned to them. 22 parents participated in this programme. The videos they sent were compiled and shared with the parents through Broadcast group Another interesting and much appreciated programme was the online **Kavi Goshthi** organized by the Kannada department. 14 parents of our school recited their own poems. Kru Pa Manjunath was the Chief Guest of the programme.

**Parents as Experts**  
*There are many, here are a few...*

 <b>Mrs. Seema Prakash</b> Took a session for class 3 students on "HISTORY OF RAILROADS"	 <b>Dr. Manjunath Shetty</b> Took a session on "Kidneys and Health"	 <b>Dr. Raveesh B.N</b> Handled a session on "Life Skill, Goal Setting and Time Management"	 <b>Dr. Harsha Basappa</b> Took a session for students on " Human Heart"
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We involved parents by identifying their expertise and interests in different fields and inviting them to take sessions for our students.

A group of grandparents and school staff are shown with stacks of books. A video inset shows a grandfather speaking.

A few grandparents also happily shared their wisdom with our children. To specify a few, we had grandparent: **Mr. Krishna Kumar Mandyam** who took a class on Kuvempu's poem Hasiru (Grandparent of Sanjana Class 10). He also gifted valuable books to the school library.

We had **Mrs. Mamata Das** who took a session on Swamivivekananda. She is the grandmother of Sreenandhini class 8. Grandfather of Aadhya B A shared his childhood memories in relation to the lesson



"When everyone in the classroom, teacher and students, recognizes that they are responsible for creating a learning community together, learning is at its most meaningful and useful." - Bell Hooks

## Experts Involvement

We involved a group of experts from across the globe to take webinars/sessions in their field of expertise. This pool of experts included psychologists, authors, filmmakers, medical experts, etc.

**10<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY**

in association with **Indian Academy of Pediatrics (Mysore Br.)** & **Mysore Adolescent Health Academy (MAHA)**

**WEBINAR**

**"Physical and Emotional Well Being of Adolescents"**

**SPEAKERS**

**Who can attend?**  
Adolescents  
Parents and  
Teachers

**10<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2020  
4:30 - 5:30 PM**

**Watch LIVE on YouTube**

<http://bit.ly/epswebinarlive>

**Experts**

Around the globe  
Authors, medical experts, psychologists...many more. A few of them are...

**Dr. Mahuya Sengupta**  
Professor at Assam University- Biotechnology- Took a session on Assam for Class X. Lesson Name "Tea from Assam- Glimpses of India"

**Girisha Rao Hathwar (JOGI)**  
Chief Magazine Editor- Kannada Prabha Magazine and Author. Took session on chapter "Annada Hangu Anyara Swaththu" or Class VII

**Julia Willis**  
Author, Filmmaker, Producer. Session on Russia for Class X Lesson Name- "The Proposal by Anton Chekhov."

**Dr. S N Hegde**  
Former Prof & Chairman, Dept. of Zoology, University of Mysore. Session on- Cell Cycle & Human Chromosomal abnormalities. For Class XI

As part of the Life Skills Classes on Science of Learning and Well-being, we had our senior secondary students partake in the student-led talk series. They interviewed various experts from different parts of the globe under the guidance of Ms. Reena Sonigrah. The speakers were selectively chosen greater good leaders contributing to the betterment of the world.



 Celebrating Togetherness at Excel Public School 166 views • 5 months ago	 Students' learning and reflections! 95 views • 6 months ago	 Chris Veraa - Higher Education Executive 120 views • 6 months ago	 Chantelle Nash - Learning Systems and Innovation... 130 views • 6 months ago	 Amit Bar on becoming a leader in L&D and journey... 106 views • 8 months ago
 Sunil Krish - Director of Manufacturing at Stanley... 346 views • 9 months ago	 Jayanth Sharma: Award-winning wildlife... 103 views • 9 months ago	 Sridevi Iyengar - Attuning an engineer's mind to a singin... 112 views • 10 months ago	 Aparna Thakker - Empowering Senior Citizen... 102 views • 10 months ago	 Krishnendu Dasgupta - learning and collaborating... 157 views • 11 months ago



"It is essential to view learning as a total community responsibility." - John Abbott

"If we stretch ourselves to open our minds, to see our shared humanity with others, we allow ourselves to see the existence of community and generosity in unexpected places." - Sharon Salzberg

This newsletter is an adaptation of the annual presentation prepared by our team of DHMs. Feel free to contact the school office to get in touch with your inputs, feedback, queries and collaborative opportunities



**Ms. Gubain Mathew**  
(Vice Principal)



**Ms. Divya Shetty**  
(Dy. Headmistress)



**Mr. Ganesh Bhat**  
(Dy. Headmaster)



**Ms. Maya Joby**  
(Dy. Headmistress)



**Ms. Jyoti Joseph**  
(Dy. Headmistress)



**Ms. K Pavithra Somayya**  
(Dy. Headmistress)

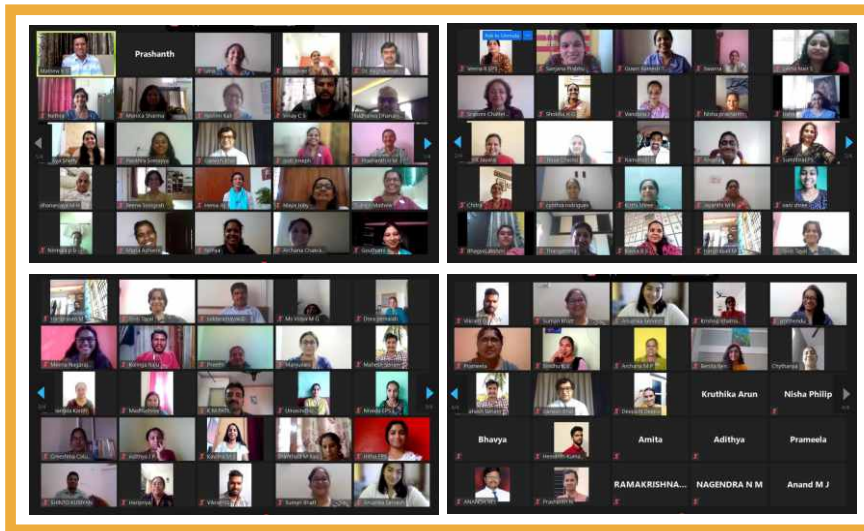


**Ms. K P Nethravathy**  
(Dy. Headmistress)

With ample preparation and deep hope and prayers we are looking forward to this new academic year, 2021-22.

Together for sure we will do our part in making our learning and lives better!

Join us in beginning this new academic year with love and prayers for everyone's happiness and well-being!



इतनी शक्ति हमें देना दाता  
मन का विश्वास कमजोर हो ना

May all be **happy** and **healthy**.

May all be **free** from **distress** and **disease**.

May all **flourish** in **love** and **oneness**.

(Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi-Affl. No: 830385)

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