



IDEALS@VDJS

August - October, 2021

"Think highly of yourself because the world takes you at your own estimate." - Kurt Hahn



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AUGUST - OCTOBER, 2021

II



Dear Readers,

Greetings!

I am overwhelmed by the positive feedback received, both from within the school and outside, on the first edition of the 'Round Square IDEALS' released in August 2021. Being recognized as a pioneer amongst schools in taking out the newsletter is humbling and motivating in equal measure. We are back with the next edition of the Round Square Quarterly that covers the events of August, September, and October.

The prevalence of COVID-19 has affected people regardless of nationality, level of education, income, or gender. Though the education community made concerted efforts for maintaining learning continuity during this crisis, the crisis exposed the many inadequacies and inequities in our education systems – from access to the broadband and computers needed for online education and the supportive environments for focus on learning to the misalignment between resources and needs. While students have had to manage their resources to continue learning remotely, the teachers had to adapt to new pedagogical concepts and modes of delivery of teaching.

Round Square also rose to the challenge imposed by social distancing through providing various alternate modes of engagement. Discussions and debates to promote sensitivity towards international issues, people, and culture continued unabated. Other aspects which got due attention were appreciating diversity and expanding cultural horizons, improving interpersonal communication skills, learning a new language, developing adaptability and problem solving, and gaining new friendships and networking. The list of benefits that accrued is far greater than can be enumerated. It is heartening to see an ever-increasing number of students desirous of experiencing these valuable and life-changing events coming their way each week. Such opportunities have helped the student community to remove signs of anxiety and apprehension within them.

Lengthy lockdowns and staying away from schools have raised concerns about the well-being of children and their overall good health conditions. Round Square celebrated World Mental Health Day on October 10. The collaborative events and open dialogues made the students aware of issues related to mental health and mindfulness. The need to reach out to a trusted family member, friend, mentor, or therapist was suggested to help people find their coping mechanism or emotional anchors.

Students not only got the opportunity to work with a more diverse population through events like Zoom Postcards, Language Labs, Virtual Conferences, and Exchange Programme, but were enlightened on the topics of global competence, self-care, and personal health.

We look forward to sharing meaningful experiences with you on this platform and creating a bond, which will lead to holistic personal growth, and the establishment of society. We welcome your feedback, thoughts, and opinions.

Merry Squaring!

Staff Editor

Aradhna Malik, PGT (Home Science)
Round Square Representative



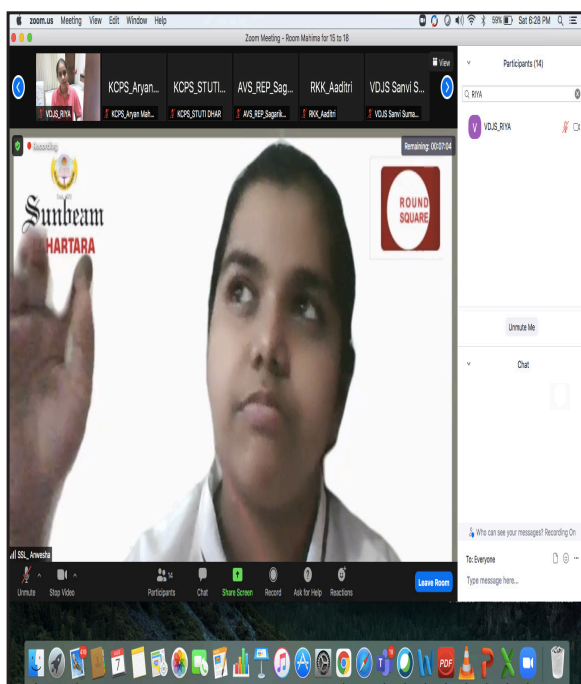
Round Square Virtual Collaborations

‘Once upon a time’...- Storytelling collaboration

By Sunbeam Suncity School, Varanasi

7th August, 2021

Riya Ahlawat from Grade IX-C and Sanvi Sumannu from Grade VI-A participated in the event along with RS Rep Aradhna Malik .Sangya Ojha, a puppeteer, voice artist and actor from India appeared with her puppet creations during the event and interacted with students and provided with tips like highlight the emotional elements of the story ,don't rush, poke fun at yourself and nobody else, Vary Your rate of speech and volume and ask listeners to imagine.



In 2014, Ojha helped unveil and launch Raya in the Gates Summit. In 2015, she travelled to Nigeria to perform Kami and Raya for a video highlighting Sesame Workshop's work in girl child education there. Currently residing in Mumbai, Sangya Ojha runs her own puppetry initiative. Her Puppetries are doing live shows on television and puppetry workshops all around the world.

Inspired by her, students from different schools narrated stories in their own unique ways. The folklores passed on from one generation to the other, are like traditions which enrich our Roots and keep our ethnicity intact. To keep our uniqueness alive, it's necessary to revisit them from time to time. Therefore, this collaboration aimed at discovering and rediscovering the cultural roots of different regions along with understanding and celebrating their belief system. The students used their creativity in narrating the stories. E.g. using



props, paper puppets or voice modulations for different characters etc. The most interesting part was, when Ms Sangya Ojha told nani ki kahani using her special puppet named Tara. ‘The event was really overwhelming and was enjoyed by students to the fullest.

‘Diversity is the art of thinking independently together’

Virtual Symposium by the Assam Valley School, India

21st August, 2021



Eight students from VDJS Vimrat Kaur, Archita, Saachi Garodia, Nandani Agarwal, Wasi Shree, Khushi Jain, Vandana Goyal from XII and Tanisha Khetan-XI along with Geography faculty Mr. Vinayak Mohan participated in Virtual Symposium organized by the Assam Valley School. The keynote speaker on the occasion was Ms. Geetanjali JB, Founding CEO & Dean, Himalayan Institute of Alternatives, Ladakh. The audience was enthralled by an enlightening talk by the speaker. She spoke of the necessary mindsets and skill sets for the globalised world of 21st century. She touched on her pet subject of environment conservation

WORLD PEACE



LET US PRAY FOR PEACE: PEACE IN THE WORLD AND IN EACH OF OUR HEARTS

and conservation of indigenous knowledge which are complementary to each other. The participants shared interesting stories about the variation in tradition, culture, language and cuisine in and across India. The participants also prepared posters on various themes like stereotypes & their solutions, diversity, unity and cooperation, and world peace as a pre-event activity.

The session concluded with the realization that unity in diversity is the thread that binds us together in the global world. The participants shared interesting stories about the variation in tradition, culture, language, and cuisine in and across India. They also prepared posters on various themes like stereotypes; their solutions, diversity, unity and cooperation, and world peace as a pre-event activity.



‘Mental Health in an Unequal World’
Collaborative event by- British Overseas School, Karachi, Pakistan and The Doon School, India
9th October, 2021

Mental Health is an essential component of health that is often disregarded and stigmatised in society.

The theme ‘Mental Health in an Unequal World’ provided an opportunity for participants to focus on the issues that preserve mental health inequality around the world. On the occasion of World Mental Health day five Psychology students Kopal Rungta, Vimrat Kaur, Archita, Manseerat Kaur, and Nishtha Singh of grade XII along with Psychology faculty Ms. Gunjan Kaushik, took part in a collaborative event and gained knowledge on the world of mental health. Delegates united around the globe through the field of education as it is imperative for everyone to work through these testing times.

Keynote speaker Dr. Kim Kendall (BSc Hons MBCh MRCPsych Ph.D.) provided information on mental health challenges and suggested ways to cope up with the causal factors of Schizophrenia, anxiety, depression or fear that are strong enough to interfere with ones daily activities. Students in their various Barazza groups discussed on various issues like why Mental Health should be treated as the Stigma-Free Zone?, barrier free therapies for psychological distress, role of heredity in the development of psychological disorders, Can money buy you happiness, Acculturation and Mental Health, Mending Mind-Sets, Frames of Mind and how to run a Marathon in your mind. This online event encouraged students to collaborate with international delegates and together everyone shared knowledge on the world of mental health issues as in recent years, there has been increasing acknowledgement of the important role mental health plays in achieving global development goals, as illustrated by the inclusion of mental health in the Sustainable Development Goals, according to World Health Organization (WHO).



‘Economics without ethics is a caricature’
Virtual Symposium- hosted by The Shri Ram School Aravalli
12th October, 2021

Six Jindalites Akanchha Saraf, Bisakha Agarwal, Vanshika Agarwal, Khushi Garg, Vritika kedia, Palak Agarwal from XII along with Economics faculty Mrs.Neelam Rai, participated in virtual symposium hosted by The Shri Ram School Aravalli.

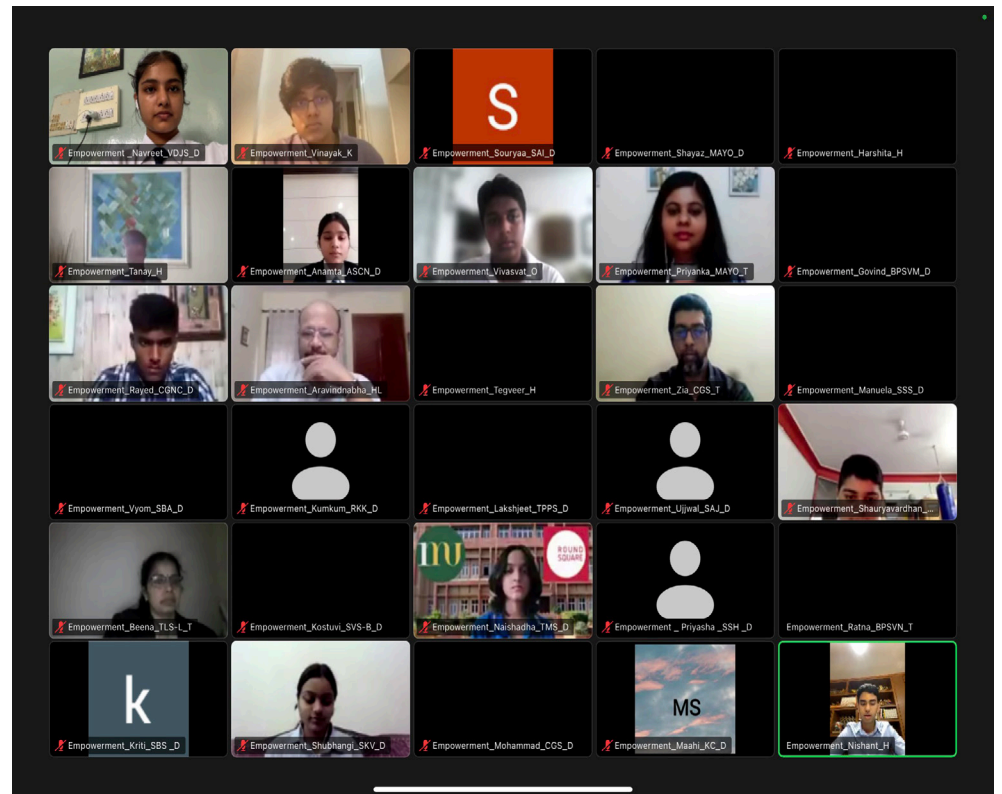
The keynote speaker on the occasion was Mr. Gunit Chadha, founder of APAC Financial Service PVT. The audience was very much keen to know about social entrepreneurship. He spoke about start ups and importance of leadership. He advised delegates to try and keep trying until you succeed and enjoy everything you do in life. As a pre-conference work participants submitted a poster on Environmentalism and one advertisement on Service which was shown to everyone in a parallel session. The session concluded on a note that ‘It require intelligence, passion and integrity, if you don’t have the last one, the other two don’t matter..

Round Square Virtual Conferences

‘Democracy: Fuelling Future Development’ Round Square Virtual Conference by The Doon School 26th August, 2021

Six students; Jiya Gupta, Girisha Aggarwal, Navreet Kaur, Parneet Kaur, Guneet Kaur and Anika Himatsingh from class XI along with the RS Rep Aradhna Malik attended the virtual-conference on the theme “Democracy: Fuelling Future Development” held by The Doon School . 220 delegates, from 40 schools and 9 Countries (Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Australia, Peru, Columbia, Ghana, South Africa and Thailand) attended the conference. Alongside icebreakers and fun activities, delegates heard from keynote speaker KP KRISHAN, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development, and broke into barazza groups to discuss the importance of democracy in a dynamic real-world society. For their pre-conference task, delegates completed a survey on the themes which were addressed during the conference.

The conference induced critical thinking amongst the students on the theme of democracy and its place in future developments.



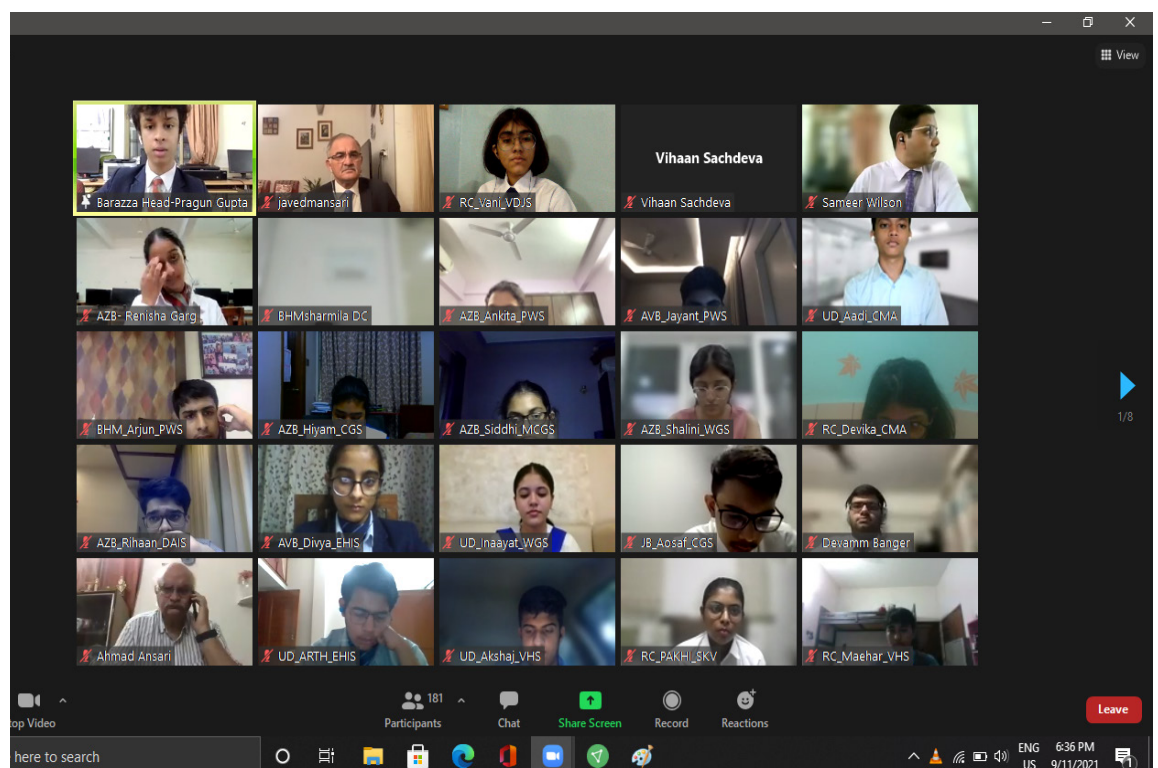
‘Democracy or DeMOCKracy’? Round Square Virtual Conference by Daly College, Indore 11th September, 2021

Six students from VDJS Vani, Manvi Kejriwal and Simon Chaudhary from grade XI, Asvika from grade X, Tanvi Rajpuria and Tehzeeb Dalal from IX participated in the RS conference along with RS Rep Aradhna Malik. 135 students from 23 schools including schools from Dubai, Bangladesh, Oman and Pakistan participated at the student - led Daly College International Virtual Conference on the theme- Democracy or De-MOCK-racy. The students discussed and debated on the relevance of democracy today and enquired into the limitations and weaknesses inherent in democracy.

Keynote speaker Mr Javed Ansari, eminent Senior Journalist and Political Analyst, spoke at length to the students on the topic- 'Democracy Today- Propaganda and Manipulation?' He dwelled upon the status of democracy in the country, concluding that India, endowed with its richly diverse population that imposes checks and balances on the government, is developing a solid foundation of democratic ideals.

Mr. Pushyamitra Bhargav, Additional Advocate General, High Court of Madhya Pradesh (Indore Bench), our second Speaker, visited the various Baraza Sessions, and later spoke on 'Leadership in Democracy'. He emphasized that a leader in a democratic society needs to be inclusive and sensitive to the needs of the people. He also explained the roles of the Executive, the Judiciary, the Legislature, and the Media in a democracy and expressed his opinion on the present state of these pillars in India.

The Baraza groups at the Conference were named after India's 'Sheroes', our forgotten women freedom fighters, who led during the first war of independence in 1857 - Uda Devi, Jhalkari Bai, Rani Chennama, Begum Hazrat Mahal, Azizun Bai and Avanti Bai. Participants in the Baraza Groups discussed 6 Leader Profiles, and each had the opportunity to express her/ his vote for one of the profiles.



‘Blue Skies and Brave Conversations’
Virtual Round Square International Conference-2021
20th-23rd Sept, 2021

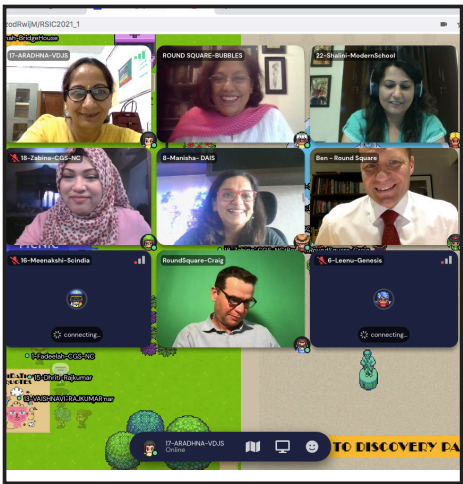


The Round Square International Conference (RSIC) is the key event occurring every year between mid September and mid October where a delegation from all Round Square Schools is invited. This conference is typically 5-7 days long, for students aged 16 to 18 years and open to the whole Round Square Schools network. This year the conference was held virtual due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Seven Jindlites- Rolee Jhunjunwala, Vanshika Patwari, Lavanya Ranjan, Kritika Dhamija, Nishtha Singh, Latika Dhiman and Archita Bishnoi of grade XII, participated in the Round Square International conference along with RS Rep Aradhna Malik .



The Conference was conducted on the Gather platform, which created a video game-like stimulation where we could navigate around a virtual conference campus and park, using the arrow keys on their keypad. Our digital avatars met one another on the platform as we connected through a video window and had real-time conversations. We could participate in games and activities by navigating our avatars to different areas of the conference campus and park.

There were 16 keynote speakers- Dr Soumya Swaminathan - Chief scientist ,world health organization, Dr Lee Howell-Former Managing director of World Economic Forum,Ade Adepitan MBE-a Nigerian-born British television presenter and wheelchair basketball player, Sanam Naraghi Anderlini MBE- British-Iranian author and Founder and Executive Director of the International Civil Society Action Network, Alex Sheen-Founder of because I said I would, Sir David Hemp-leman-Adams OBE- Industrialist and Adventurer, Dr Vandana Shiva- Indian scholar, environmental activist, food sovereignty advocate, ecofeminist and anti-globalization author. Ofentse Lekwane-works in youth unemployment in South Africa and is also a “skinfluencer” for major skincare brands including Gillette and Nivea. Buhle Dlamini- An entrepreneur and founder of Young & Able(SA) and Mindgro Consulting (Canada), Ellen Windemuth-Founder and CEO of WaterBear Network, Dr Ronnie Gladden- Tenured professor, speaker, actor and author. Dr



Anantha Duraiappah- science-policy pacesetter, Solli Raphael- youngest ever winner of the Australian Poetry Slam and Lesego Serolong- founder and CEO of Bokamaso Impact Investment ,a social enterprise. All of them elucidated the topic of ‘brave conversations’ and gave us the pre-requisite knowledge.

Forging ahead, the students along with teacher in-charge were divided into brazza-sessions where the participants had an open forum to share their opinions on different social issues.

Each student delegates were also asked to combine images and words of their choice into a montage that represents the culture of their school. It was a mind-freshening activity for the students.

Through this conference, delegate’s learnt how to voice unpopular and unpolished opinions with earnesty and honesty. Delegates learnt to address the nuance in our conversations and handle grave topics with sensitivity. In the run-up to the RSIC2021, students were also invited to submit their art work for the annual Roy McComish Art Award .A fantastic range of art work was entered by VDJS delegation. The end of the conference was marked by the digital avatars engaging in dancing, interacting and taking pictures with each other.

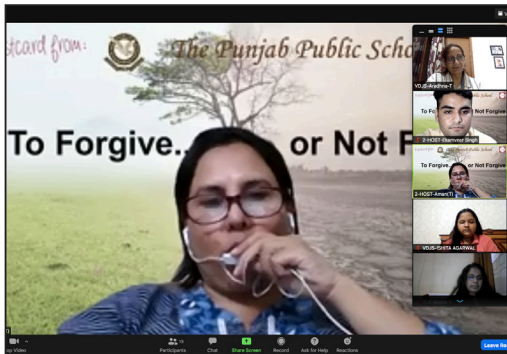


Roy McComish Art Entries by VDJS Delegation(RSIC-2021)



Zoom around the world with Round Square Postcards

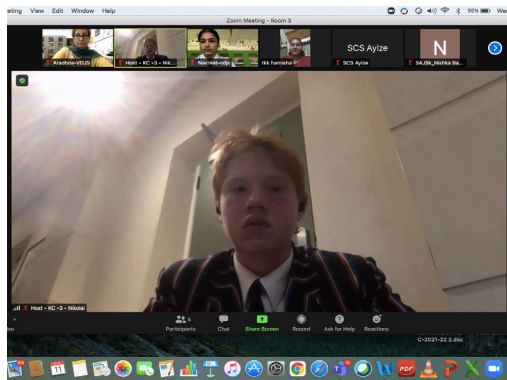
‘Forgiveness: A Road to Peace’ Zoom Call by Punjab Public School, Nabha 4th August, 2021



Seven students from our school; Ishita Agarwal, Nandini Agarwal, Priyamvada, Yuvika Agarwal, Nandini Agarwal and Noor Beniwal, along with the RS Rep. Ms. Aradhna Malik, attended the Zoom Call. The Call gathered around 178 students from 28 schools in 3 countries (South Africa, India and Oman) based on the theme “Forgiveness: a road to peace.” Participants were treated to an unforgettable keynote Dr. Frederic Luskin, a Senior Consultant in Health Promotion and Wellness at Stanford University and Director of the Stanford University Forgiveness Projects. He communicated with the delegates that Forgiveness is a state of mind and heart that allows the negative feelings to emerge and we should accept them, process them and in time, let them go. This process can be toward anything and is often both personal and collective. Forgiveness is much easier when people practice gratitude for the amazing blessing of being alive and all the abundance we have and compassion to recognize that we are never alone in our suffering, and often many folks have far worse experiences to deal with than do we. Dr. Luskin

also informed about the physiology of stress, how to cultivate positive emotions for increased productivity and how to enhance emotional intelligence and implement it. Finally all delegates divided into barazza breakouts to discuss the nature of forgiveness before returning for a final plenary session.

Space or Sea? ‘The Great Debate’ A Zoom Call by King’s College, Newzealand 11th August, 2021



Five students from VDJS; Anny Choudhary from XII, Anika Himatsingha, Navreet Kaur, Girisha Agarwal from XI and Shivanshi from X, along with the RS Rep. Ms. Aradhna Malik, participated in the zoom call of KING’S COLLEGE, NEWZEALAND.

70 students from 10 schools in 3 countries (Australia, India and South Africa) joined the call. King’s College hosts introduced the topic and then participants headed off to barazza breakouts to debate whether we should explore space or the deep oceans in an effort to find solutions to help sustain humanity. Students then reconvened in the main room to share the highlights of their discussions.

‘Nurturing Leadership’ A Zoom Call by Step By Step School, Noida, India 18th August, 2021

Vandana Goyal and Manseerat from XII, Avnoor Singh, Tanisha Khetan, Girisha Agarwal from XI and Shivanshi from X, along with the RS Rep. Ms. Aradhna Malik, interacted in the Round Square Zoom call of Step by Step School held on 18/08/2021.

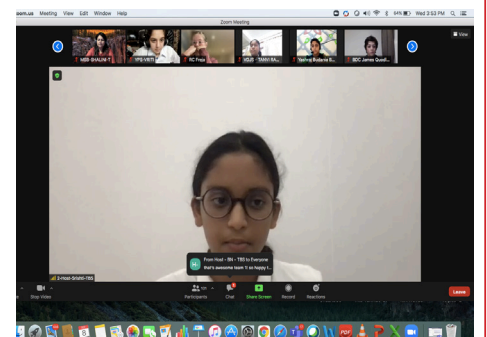
112 students from 16 schools in South Africa, India, Peru, and Oman joined the call. After an interesting introduction where SBS students discussed personal examples of leadership, participants divided into Barazza groups to discuss issues such as the important attributes of a negotiator and the importance of self-reflection for a leader. Students then returned to the main room to share their learnings before concluding remarks from our wonderful hosts.

‘Crop Out Monoculture’ A Zoom Call by Bridge House School, South Africa 1st September, 2021

On 1st September, 2021, 4 students from VDJS, Vritika Kedia, Latika Dhiman and Sneha Goyal from grade XII and Vani from XI attended the RS Zoom Postcard organised by Bridge House school in Franschoek, South Africa on the theme “Crop Out Agriculture”. 50 students from different RS schools in South Africa, India and Peru joined the call, which began with a keynote speech on the challenges of monocultures in modern agriculture. During the call delegates shared examples of monoculture and polyculture agriculture from their part of the world. Participants then divided into Barazza groups to brainstorm the topic and re-convened at the end to share their collective learnings

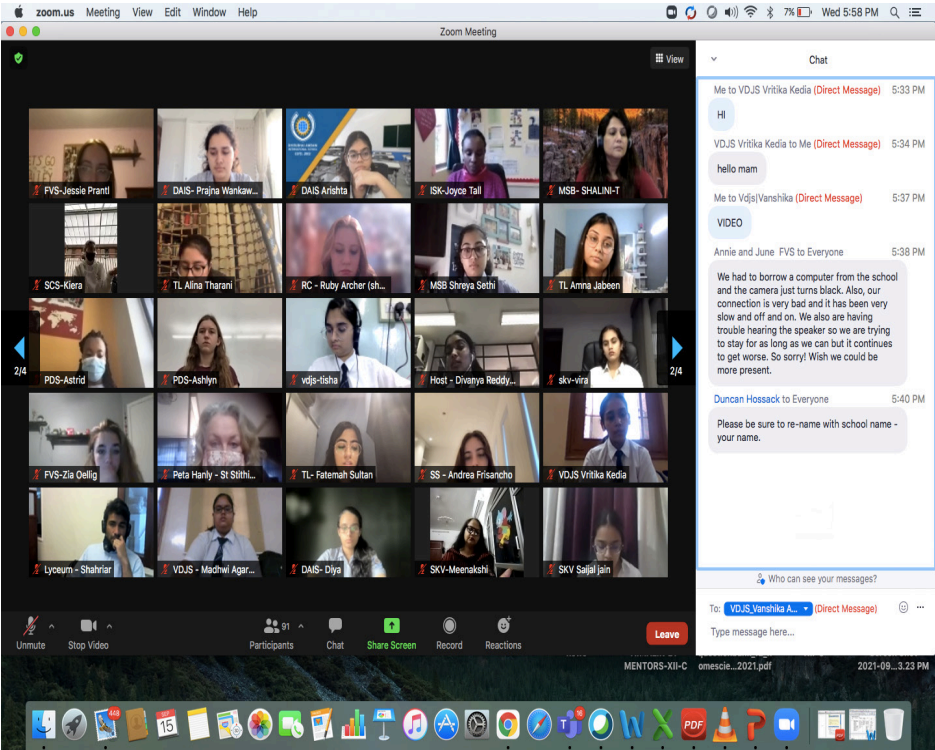
‘Sustainable Living’ Zoom call by The British School, New Delhi 8th September, 2021

Four students from our school; Tanvi Rajpuria, Riya, Tehzeeb Dalal and Sanvi Sumannu, along with the RS Rep. Ms. Aradhna Malik, participated in RS postcard organized by The British School, New Delhi. The call gathered about 82 students from RS Schools in South Africa, India, Oman and Australia based on the theme “Sustainable Living”. During the call student hosts presented on challenges of sustainable living and then the participants were divided in barazza groups to brainstorm the topic before reconvening at the end to share the outcomes of their collaborative learning. It was indeed an enriching experience for the participants.



**‘Uniform or not’
Zoom Call by St. Stithian’s Girls College,
Johannesburg
15th September, 2021**

Five students from grade XII Vritika Kedia, Sneha Goyal, Tisha Agarwal, Vanshika Agarwal and Madhwi Agarwal, along with the RS Rep. Ms. Aradhna Malik, participated in a RS Zoom Postcard organized by St. Stithian’s Girls College, Johannesburg. The call gathered 65 students from 14 schools from India, Pakistan, Colombia, Australia, Peru and the USA, based on the theme “Uniform or not”. Following introductions and a lively panel discussion, participants headed to breakout rooms to discuss a number of thorny questions relating to school uniform. Delegates then reconvened to share their learning’s of the breakout rooms.



**‘Rising from the Ashes’
Zoom Call by Sunbeam School, Lahartara
29th September, 2021**

Five students from grade XII Glory, Priyanshi Mehta, Sanjeevani Agarwal, Vritika Kedia and Vedika Sahewala, along with the RS Rep. Ms. Aradhna Malik, attended the 90-minute call that brought together 96 participants from 22 schools in 4 countries (India, USA, Peru and South Africa).

Key note speaker of the event Dr. Ms. Salony Priya, a popular Psychologist from Kolkata, advised students to apply multispecialty and multidimensional approach to emotional, social and physical well being. She suggested students to optimize their potential, challenge boundaries and realize their true worth. During the call, delegates inquired for personal and work related difficulties with Dr Priya.

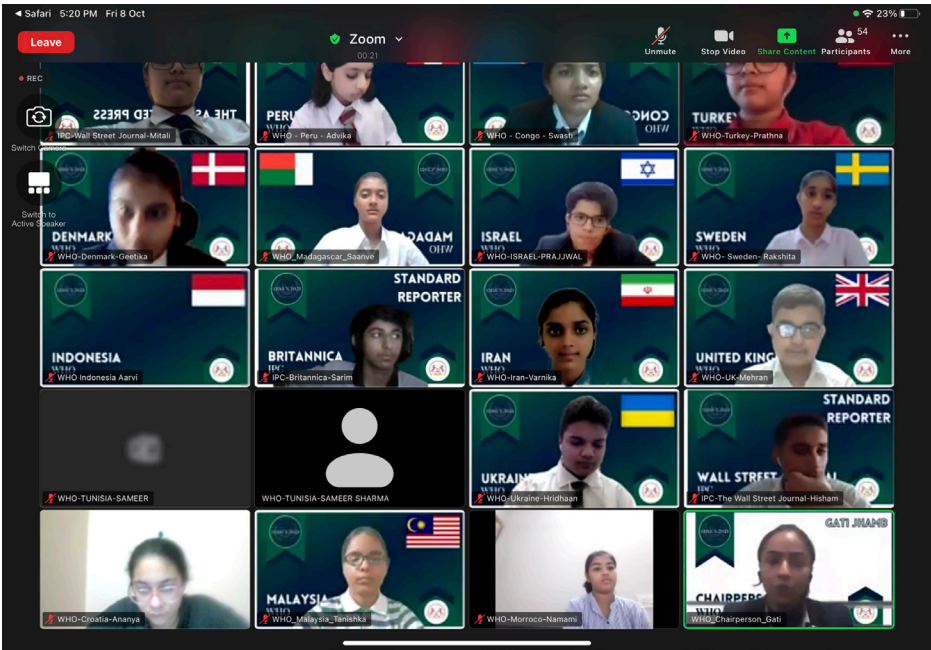


MUN

**‘EKATRIT’ Model United Nations
By The Emerald Heights School, Indore
8th-10th October, 2021**

Eight of our students— Sanjeevani Agarwal, Parineet Maan, Divyani, Yatika, Sanvi Kakkar, Sanvi Gupta, Paridhi Goel and Mitali Dhaka along with the Teacher in-charge, Mr. Abhijit Mukhopadhyay participated in an International MUN, hosted by the Emerald Heights International School, Indore.

The Conference was held from 8th to 10th October, 2021. The theme of the MUN was ‘EKATRIT’ or Togetherness, where students from 30 different schools had also participated from different countries. Our students were divided in six committees. From the Ice Breaking Session till the Closing Ceremony, all the sessions were thoroughly enjoyed by the Student-Delegates



and the Faculty-In-charges alike. The Agenda of each of the Committees was mostly related to contemporary topics, which poses a challenge to all of us. It helped broaden our horizons, based on in-depth research. After many brain storming sessions, Ms. Sanjeevani Agarwal was declared for Special Award for the Best Position Paper for UNSC Committee of Country USA. Indeed it was a learning and joyful experience for all the Jindalites.

**6th Edition of E. Ahamed
Model United Nations Conference
Organized by The Indian School
Al Ghubra, Muscat
10th - 12th September, 2021**

Four students of grade XI , Navreet Kaur, Mannat Ranjit, Isar Kaur Bal and Vanshika Beniwal, along with the RS Rep. Aradhna Malik, attended the MUN held by the Indian School Al Ghubra.

Indian School Al Ghubra hosted the 6th Edition of the E. Ahamed Model United Nations Conference on a virtual platform from the 10th to the 12th of September 2021. The conference was attended by 350 delegates from 32 schools across 5 countries. The theme of the conference was 'Unbreakable Unity through Crisis'.

The Chief Guest of the Opening Ceremony of E.A. MUNC 2021 was Mr Mohiuddin Mohamad Ali, the Vice Chairman of Galfar Engineering and contracting, and Member of Board of Directors and Board of Trustees of National University of Science & Technology. In his address, he encouraged the delegates to use the opportunity given to them to become great leaders of tomorrow.

Dr. Baby Sam Samuel was the Guest of Honour and Keynote Speaker. A business designer, organization mentor and social impact leader, he has served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors to Indian Schools in Oman. In his inspiring talk he urged the delegates to acquire the knowledge and the skills required to be the change makers that the world needs.

After the Opening Ceremony, the delegates moved to their respective committees to deliberate and discuss various topics assigned to them.

The three-day conference came to an end with the Valedictory function which had as the Chief Guest, His Excellency Venu Rajamony, former Ambassador of India to the Netherlands and Professor of Diplomatic Practice at Jindal Global Law School. He shared valuable insights from his 34-year long experience in diplomacy to inspire the delegates.

Mr. Ahmed Rayees, President of SMC-ISG and Chairman of E.A.MUNC, in his speech, hoped that the conference was a memorable experience for the delegates and would inspire them to seek leadership positions in the UN.

The office bearers of the E.A.MUNC 2021 were Adithya Sharma – Secretary General; Kshama Sushilkumar – Director General; they, along with the Bureau Chiefs of the 5 committees – Raechel Mary Bobby – HSC; Jai Bhagat – SOCHUM; Vinayak Balasubramanian – UNEP; Sujanyaa Sriram – WHO; and Anoushka Madavi – UNHRC, efficiently led the proceedings, following closely the procedures and protocol of the UN.

Awards such as Outstanding Diplomacy, Diplomacy, Best Position Paper and Verbal Mentions were presented to the delegates. The newly instituted award for the Best Committee was shared between SOCHUM and HSC.

The Principal, Mrs Papri Ghosh thanked Mrs Maleka Ariwala, the Director of E.A.MUNC and MUNC co-ordinator at ISG, the teachers and the delegates for their untiring enthusiasm and hard work.

The valuable perspectives and experience gained at the conference have undoubtedly left a deep imprint on the hearts and minds of the delegates.



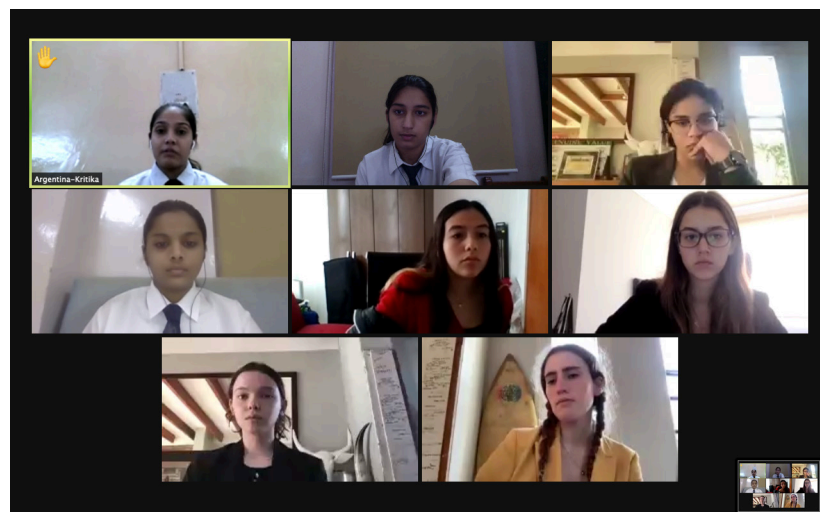
San Silvestre Model United Nation 10th -12th September, 2021

San Silvestre School is a British-Peruvian private school located in Lima, Peru. It organised a three day Model United Nations from 10th -12th Sep, 2021. Eleven students, Sanvi Kakkar, Manya Khanna, Pearl, Avishi Gautam, Lavanya Singh, and Paridhi Goel, Kashish Lohan, Isha, Supriya Mande, Tanveer Kaur and Kritika Dhameja, along with the Teacher Escort- Mr Abhijeet Mukhopadhyay, attended the same.

SSMUN 2021 was based on the Model UN process in Peru, which uses the UNA-USA procedure. SSMUN 2021 gave delegates the chance to resolve world size issues successfully and welcomed schools from around the world.

This year's conference focused on culturally enriching topics, navigating themes from the past, present and future. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the conference was held virtually as it was aimed at providing an amazing diplomatic experience to each and every delegate from every corner of the earth. The committees offered to the delegates were DISEC, SOCHUM, WHO, INTERPOL, NATO, ECOSOC, UN WOMEN, as well as various specialized agencies.

This edition of SSMUN was an enjoyable experience. More than 300+ participants participated with 1:6 Chair-Delegate Ratio and the teamwork between the organizing team surpassed all as every delegate had the opportunity to grow with it under the Secretary-General Maria Fatima Martinez.



RS Alumna Inlet



Greetings of the season to everyone,
The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.

I truly believe in this, and Round Square as an organisation had made it possible for me to travel beyond just my books and classrooms during my school life. I travelled to three countries and more than three states in India itself for the Round Square Exchange Programmes, Conferences, and Service Projects. More so, I now have a family in South Africa that I am in constant touch with. We have met several times post the Exchange program as well. I have the deepest gratitude for VDJS and Round Square, for providing this extraordinary platform. I am so glad I got the privilege to write for our very own Round Square Newsletter and relive the beautiful journey. Throughout my time at school, I was an active Round Square participant. I participated in 8 Round Square events, including 3 regional conferences, 2 International Exchange Programmes, and 3 Service projects, one of which was the prestigious Round Square International Service Project in Cambodia. Due to my deep engagement with the Round Square events I got an opportunity to become the Student Round Square Representative of our school in Grade XII under the guidance of our Teacher Representative, Ms. Aradhna Malik.

It has been an integral part of my school life and has helped me become who I am today. I think that a Round Square education is different from a normal education in that you learn about the rest of the world. You learn to be an active global citizen, rekindle your spirit of adventure, and be an environmentalist over and above your academic learning. This experience is really valuable in enriching us as students, and the exposure it provides us at such a young age is remarkable. I remember it being a slew of firsts - my first Round Square conference, my first flight to Thailand for the Round Square Exchange Program, and my first time building an English classroom in a remote Cambodian village.

Round Square would be that one thing I would insist every student in VDJS tries to attend because of its inherent capacity to broaden one's perspective and help contribute to society in a meaningful way. Something a student will never forget. It has helped in ways that I never imagined - including my college applications! It gave me an edge over the other students. The six learning pillars of Round Square, our IDEALS, truly help us shape a better future for ourselves and those around us. These begin with International Understanding, which is fundamental in shaping well-rounded, principled, internationally astute global citizens and potential leaders among us. It not only teaches us about Internationalism but also about, Democracy, Environment, the Spirit of Adventure, a True Sense of Leadership and Service as a way of life. I have learnt a lot from the service projects I have attended and hosted at my school. Everything about the Round Square IDEALS is about justice and service and helping people who are most in need. It's quite a rare thing to have received an education that nurtures your desire to explore, learn and care in such an organised and exciting way.

Not only did I learn about these ideals, but above and beyond these, I learnt about different cultures and places and people that I, to date, cherish. In Cambodia, I learnt comfort lies beyond the idea of feeling at home; it lies with the people and experiences that make you feel at home. In the real world, we were away from our phones, facing one problem at a time and working on it as a team. I absolutely fell in love with everything there, moving beyond my comfort zone and problems, believing in the idea of simplicity in life. It was also full of adventures as we stayed in the bamboo huts in the middle of a jungle or more so in the middle of nature. It has been one of the most beautiful experiences of my life, including the Rodean School, South Africa Exchange programme. Round Square has given me the confidence and opportunities to explore a more internationally focused and service- driven path. It has propelled me into making more environmentally conscious choices, grabbing every opportunity, exploring and immersing myself in new places and new cultures, while at the same time looking for new opportunities to learn and making life-long friends. All in all, I am more independent and self-confident than I ever was.

My message to the readers is that this is your time to live a wonderful life in a beautiful place like Vidya Devi Jindal School. I urge you to try and seize every moment and opportunity you can as time flies by, since this time, once lost, will never come back, so it's imperative you cherish it while you still can. I have spent the nine most beautiful years of my life in this school that I call home. There is no other place as wholesome as this. Make sure to keep your hearts and minds open while on this journey and keep growing!

Stay happy and keep shining!
Always a Jindalite, Bhawana Dahiya Batch 2018.



(KALEIDOSCOPE)



Discovery Framework

Team

Discovery Framework



Student Reporter:
Tanvi Rajpuria

Student Designers: Chitrakshi & Vandana

Staff Advisor & editor:
Ms Aradhna Malik

Designing I/C:
Ms Neelam P Sharma

Published By:
Ms Shalini Mehrotra
Principal
Vidya Devi Jindal School
Delhi Road, Hisar
Haryana- 125044

Phone: +91-1666281000 to 281002
Fax No.: 91-1662-281005