

Newsletter

22/4/2020

"I asked God for strength, He gave me hurdles to win" ~ Swami Vivekananda

**Online Learning's Big Moment ~
A Revamp in Education ~ Due Covid-19 Pandemic**

But our children are not the problem! They are the only answers!

It is quite often we, as schools, management, as teachers may tend to think, *that children are the problems. They are hyperactive, creating distractions, disturbing sessions! Many traditional school's teaching process, come to a conclusion that manging children is difficult, is problematic? that they throw pranks and disrespects to their teachers and elders? That they do not understand the situation? But our children, the children of Victorious kids Educares (VKE) take strong objections to those thoughts. They display through their work, their reflections that are not the problem! VKE teachers understand that today's children are not the people, as we in our days used to be? That they are different!*

*They are also the only answers for tomorrow!
They are our future Human Resource?*

We at Victorious Kidss Say, "If the students have not learnt, it is we, the teachers and the school, have not taught? They **are required to be 'Digital, Virtual, use External Brain'**."

After all, in Bhagvad Gita, in which the greatest teaching has been included, was not taught by Krishna to Arjuna in peace or comfort of a home or a safe Himalayan mountain cave? It was taught in a battlefield.



**EVERYTHING IS NOT
LOCKED DOWN ~ A New
Door of Learning Opens Up!**

Sunrise is not, Love is not, Family Time is not, Kindness, Compassion, Loyalty, Creativity, Conversation, Imagining, Reading, Praying, Meditation. Our Hope, our Spirituality is not locked down? None of these are locked down, then how can 'Learning or Teaching Be Locked Down'? Schools may physically be, but the learning and teaching, the curiosity of a human child, the desire to exchange wisdom by a teacher cannot be locked down? The true learning starts now.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Victorious Kidss Educares!

In the midst of this overwhelming fear and anxiety, there was a silver lining around the cloud that perhaps, was overlooked by many of us and which are, the young champions of Victorious Kidss Educares, as young as six years old, through till 19 years of age, showed to their parents and teachers, their brilliance and perseverance in the face of this pandemic. **They did not let the crisis go waste.** In fact, all the programs, from the Foundation Years Program to the Diploma Programme have shown how to face adversities with no fear and no panic and utilizing every single opportunity in active learning. Congratulations to the great warrior mothers, the war lord fathers and remotely but spiritually inspired teachers Generals in the front field!

There were challenges strewn along the path, the task was vast, monstrous, awe-inspiring, especially when it was needed to be done at such a short notice. But our dedicated team of teachers burnt the midnight oil to come up with various strategies to conduct online classes. A lot of collaborative effort resulted in preparing engaging tasks, creative worksheets, challenging assessments, and self-exploration through classes such as Ted-ed, Career Counseling and Behavior Counseling, to name a few. Even being a part of the group, it would quite be difficult to measure how humungous the task was!

Seeing the zeal and vigor, we are delighted to inform you that **we shall commence with the 'New Academic Session ~ 2020-2021, subject to Government permission with effect from Monday the 1st of June, about six weeks to go.** We pray that the situation would be stable and under control by that time. Should the permission from the Government, gets delayed, we are well equipped, well trained to start the new session with effect from **Monday, the 1st of June, "Virtually online" or regular.** However, in case the odds stand against us, **nothing should dampen the spirit of teaching and learning.**

We would be having the digital report card, sent to you on 22 April 2020. The dates will be informed to you as per directive issued by the government officials.

As excellence has no limit and so does in the 'Principles of Teaching & Learning', we are working on the professional development of our facilitators on a regular basis, involving learning engagements for our champions. Till then, we expect you to encourage children to stick to a routine and never allow complacency to sink in.

Thank You for your immense support and cooperation.

Warm Regards

Principal
Victorious Kidss Educares

We are one family. Let this crisis of COVID-19 take all of us, across to a greater excellence, to greater heights of knowingness, reaching perfection, of being a 'Giant', attaining 'Human Excellence'. Let us guide our children to attain those qualities, for which we all love children!

The 'back to school' ~ whether 'physical' or 'virtual' ~ we are starting from 01st Jun 2020!

Those of you, who have already done the payment for the academic year 2020-2021, we appreciate and thank you for being prompt.

Those of you, who have been handicapped by the 'lock down', we understand. See what is it you could do, to send the tuition fees through an electronic bank transfer?

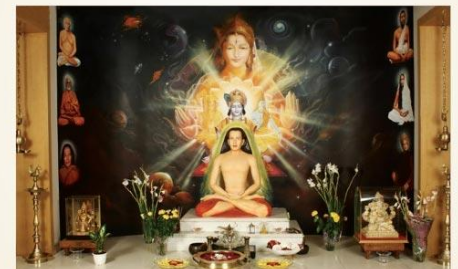
VKE in the meanwhile, is trying to do a tie up with Pay TM! As soon that is done, you shall be notified.

Should you need to hand over your cheque, please contact the 'Accounts Section' and mutually see if a solution could be reached?

Please call Executive Accounts Officer Kishan 8806363202 or Senior Accounts Anil 7721004448.

His Grace

"A river doesn't drink its own water.
A tree doesn't eat its own fruit.
Great masters of human race, have become immortal
by devoting their lives to the services of others."



"Wrap yourself with his thoughts.
His holy name has the power of all powers.
Like a shield it would deflect all negative vibrations.
His holy name will guide you,
protect you & shower you with affluence.
Would fill your life with bliss & happiness".

VIRTUAL 'E ~TEACHING & LEARNING'

While almost everyone has been overwhelmed with anxiety and fear, Victorious Kidss Educares, an IB World School, has been busy doing the virtual 'e ~teaching & learning' for their children. In the wake of the **pandemic** that has rocked the world, it seemed that life has come to a standstill. Reports, on the closure was sudden and offered no time to plan. The news featured in local and national television, as well as newspapers such as TOI etc., speak volumes about the challenges that the entire humanity is facing at the stifling hands of panic and fear of further outbreak? In such a scenario, it becomes the fundamental duty of every **citizen to come together, put her/his best foot forward ~ bring out that courage, the truth and strength of human character ~ in every spheres of life. The people are displaying great faith in The Government ~ the success of 'Janata Curfew' was a great indicator!** But what is it that, we can do, starting from our home, society, city, State, our country and then, as a citizen of this world? Not only should we support and abide by the Government, strengthen the norms and rules, for our safety but also take care that we are not deprived of our basic rights. Our rights for **education**.

In this pandemic, in our urge to live, to protect ourselves, our children and the family, buy stuffs, get the right healing protection, as parents, educators and adults, we have lost our attention to keep ourselves and our children busy. Lovingly keep their mind occupied with fun learning, guided education and related activities, particularly in such a state of **'live or die'** crisis? Keeping ourselves busy with the latest Facebook or Instagram messages with this COVID 19, seems to take all our time and in the bargain children, adults, elderly members, are all occupied with the screen time, be it the TV, mobile, iPad or with what to buy from iStore or what could we get to eat?

Victorious Kidss Educares that has been evaluated by the IBO as a **Model International Baccalaureate (IB) World school** in Asia, has once again, despite the **current global threat, proven its mettle in maintaining the quality of the education it provides. Abiding by the orders of the Ministry**, while the school has officially been closed, the entire school with Middle Years Program, Primary Years Program, Foundation Years Program and the Diploma Program (DP), all together ~in unison and with force, took to **implementing online distance digital learning sessions with the objective of engaging students constructively in their learning process.**

Sir Winston Churchill had at his prime said, "Never let a crisis go to waste". At VKE, watch it being implemented by your kids!

We the Victorious Kidss Children, Teachers, Parents & The Management did not allow the 'Crisis', the 'Hurdles' to go waste. We, all together, hand in hand, working intensely created a different world of 'Virtual Learning'.



Written by-

Anoushka Shetty (16years) in DP1.

Sarah Chawla (17years) in DP1

Ehsas Kakkar (17years) in DP1

Sparsh Kataria (16years) in DP1

Vyom Shinde (15 years) in DP1

Sayasha Gawde (17 years) in DP1

1. Victorious Kidss Educares has taken advantage of the technological advancements that we have today, and us students are being provided with a great substitute to physical school. In this alarming global standstill, I am so grateful that our schoolwork has not suffered. This step of online learning ensures that we won't fall behind, and we will advance into the next year with the necessary knowledge. Since staying in lockdown for a long amount of time can get very dull, we look forward to learning something new every day. However, video conference classes also have their limitations, and we do miss quite a bit from school. Of course, with a platform like this, technical difficulties are to be expected and they can get a bit frustrating. This can also be an obstacle in subjects like mathematics, where nothing beats a whiteboard and marker. Some concepts are extremely advanced, and can't be taught through videos or worksheets. Another issue is pranking. Some students might release their pent up frustration by pranking the class, or simply chatting with their friends; this can get extremely frustrating and irritating. Most students don't disrupt the decorum of online classes, due to the IB pedagogy that we have been taught. We know to display learner profiles, such as principled and balanced behavior in all settings. Regardless, our school has ensured that this stays to a minimum by creating rules of "netiquette", and guaranteeing that the students are involved and the classes are interactive. Through these actions, the issues that many schools face with video conferencing classes can be greatly reduced.

2. Working from our homes is very comfortable. In this daunting time, any source of familiarity is welcome, and the teachers have also been working tirelessly in order to provide a streamlined and comfortable transition of style of learning. By adding activities, worksheets and online lab experiments, we look forward to class every day. However, while staying in a familiar environment may have its benefits, it can also lead to lowered concentration. Household obligations can come in the way of our school work sometime, especially for those of us who have younger siblings. This simply was not an issue in school, and it will definitely take some time to get used to.

3. Naturally, we miss each other very much! Seeing our friends as pixels on a screen is worlds apart from seeing them in real life. We miss eating our tiffin with each other in the cafeteria. Nevertheless, this time can be used for making connections as a family; sitting down and eating lunch as a family otherwise is very rare, given school, office and household chores.

4. We feel that we are actually completing more during the lockdown! The longer hours and reduction in wasted time (transport, unpacking, conversation) means that class time is much more valuable. Thus, more assignments have been given, as well as regular assessments and exams. This ensures that we study more than usual, and consequently, most concepts are better understood. The amount of assignments can also sometimes get overwhelming, but we believe that this helps us manage our time and prepares us for a future in a technology-dependent society. Furthermore, one important skill that we are learning is self-restraint. The temptation to scroll to Instagram, when your laptop is already open, is very strong, but we have been learning to overcome it and focus on the task at hand. This will be extremely beneficial for us in the future.



Jai Lipane is 🥳 feeling fantastic.

Just now • 🌐

#live #Online #school #classes 🎉🎊👏👏
 #victoriouskidsseducare 🍑 #stayhome
 #staysafe #betcaronavirus 🖤 #covid19 🦠🦠



We have decided to stick to the essential agreement given by the school, where we make sure that nobody misuses the internet.

I have been in VKE since I was 4 months old, I have seen VKE make so many advancements like these. The school is always taking so many steps for making learning at its best, this clearly says that even the outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus can't stop VKE. We'll still shine, make the world stand up again, we all must stay @home and stay safe." – says Jai Lipane.

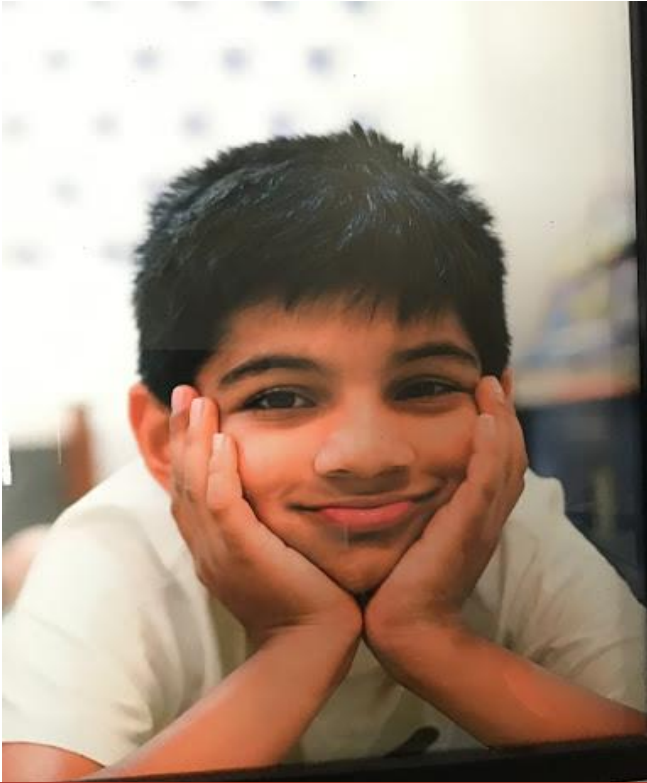
Another student Nia Gathani studying in MYP4 (Grade 9) says, "The online zoom sessions are **extremely interactive and informative** as we have mode conduct and every subject teacher makes sure that we stay in discipline. We are going forward with our syllabus and are trying to understand everything we can. If we have any queries, we ask the subject teacher and the teacher makes sure that our doubts are cleared. The subject teacher makes sure that every student is giving answers and contributing. **The Attitude to Learning (ATL) skills developed for the google classroom and zoom sessions are thinking skills, communication skills, time management skills, self-management skills, and research skills.**

This is a great initiative and **makes learning fun**, and of course, this has its own pros and cons but overall, it's amazing and we are **getting something in our heads**".

Rudraansh from MYP3 (Grade 8) says, "The online school was an amazing initiative and it was really great to see the **determination of our schoolteachers towards teaching us** and making sure that the inquiry cycles, the curriculum, the **syllabus is completed**. Everything went super smoothly and efficiently thanks to teachers like Moti ma'am who were always coordinating with the students and always immediately responded to the questions asked".

Ira Prabhudesai, an eighth grade (MYP III) student says, "**I feel that online schooling has been a great boon for our learning journey in MYP 3.** From **teaching to doing the assessments**, the teachers have made sure that we could get the **same inquiry-based learning** as what we get in school. The assessments were not very difficult, and I can say that we have learned a lot from the online classes. The teachers were very understanding when there were problems with connections, and I felt it was nothing different from our school.

Zoom was also a great boon, especially for our design classes. Jyoti ma'am taught me **C++ very well through zoom, even though I am very weak in Digital Design**. To add on, because of google classroom, our teachers have also made our learning easier and more fun with the help of **videos, games, puzzles, mind maps and various other activities**. This whole experience was really fun, and I am very happy that we could complete our syllabus of MYP 3.



Anshumaan Laddad from MYP1 (Grade 6) Inquirer says, "The online classes were fun and also a new experience for me. I learnt a lot through these classes. Our teachers tried their best to make us understand all the topics we would learn in our school. The classes online were very interactive and informative. **Without these classes I do not know how bad I would do in these assessments. These classes were a lifesaver for me** and I am pretty sure for all of my classmate's friends and also my schoolmates. Each of the time I had a doubt I would post it on the stream or in the comments and the respective teacher would post the answer and the doubt was cleared".

Aarav Malick of MYP1 Inquirer says, "I have never heard or experienced online teaching and learning until this pandemic occurred! The online classes that have been happening from the past few weeks were **very engaging and entertaining**. I had lot of fun attending these classes and being a part of it. I was not very excited about these online classes in the beginning but as the classes carried on, I developed lot of interest. I have learnt many things in this little time. This practice worked as a **brain booster for my mind**. In short, I really loved being a part of these classes because I have never experienced this kind of teaching in my life before. I would like to **thank all my teachers behind the curtain**".



*Discovering that **secret power** from within the child,
is schooling, is parenting*

PTA COMMUNITY

~ **The PTA** has been extremely supportive as well, through their words of encouragement. **“Just want to recognize the school’s excellent work in setting up eLearning this quickly. Well done to all those involved.”** said one parent. While, another parent said **“This is excellent. Way all the staff are planning, and managing is commendable. I don’t think anyone can do what you have done at such a short notice. I am very thankful to all teachers, coordinators, principal.”**

By the grace of the **‘Divine Power’**, the school took up this mighty challenge, and upheld its motto of **‘Learning to Love to Learn’**. Our team aims to discover more ways to ensure that learning continues in a healthy way and provide the **best possible learning**

MYP & DP: (Age 10 to 19 years old)

~ The task that required humungous planning on part of the MYP & DP Program gave way to the hybrid approach of utilizing both synchronous (happening collaboratively and at the same time with a group of students and teachers via video conferencing, **screen sharing**) as well as **asynchronous (through notes, worksheets, presentations and recorded audio files) methodologies**. resorted to conceptually a cloud of “Digital Distant Learning”. The sessions were planned to keep in mind the feasibility of student involvement and considering the possible technical issues, varying degrees of parent involvement, as well as illness (if any).

The team so far, has found synchronous learning a powerful way to keep the class connected and united. The instructions required for all the classes are being sent via online platforms, such as **Managebac and emails** ~ well in advance. **Video conference calls through apps such as Skype and Zoom** are being made to introduce important lessons or projects, while all the reference material is being shared through **Managebac and Google classroom, Zoom classes and Webinar**. **Teachers are providing immediate feedback through online knowledge checks, comments on collaborative documents and chat to keep students motivated and moving forward.**

Not just the students but also the **pedagogical leadership team members** are actively involved in imparting the necessary **training to the teachers**. *Important decisions are being made effectively in collaboration, over conference calls and implemented with the help of advanced technologies.* **The pedagogy leaders are collating and collaborating through conference calls with quality team and HOD’s for planning and reflecting on sessions, helping in smooth functioning of the e-classes. Teachers are providing immediate feedback through online knowledge checks, comments on collaborative documents and chat to keep students motivated and moving forward.**

To keep parents in loop homerooms are sending the whole day’s report along with next day’s schedule. Guidelines to ensure the privacy and **data protection** have been

shared with the students, and the teachers were successful in developing the online class **“‘Essential Agreements” ~ a strategy utilized at VKE to bring out the best as well as establish control”**.

‘Live Breaks’ are being observed on **Google classrooms**, to allow students to connect with each other and collaborate. **Home room teachers are assuring that the students should get ‘break learning’ into smaller chunks and they should be clear about expectations for online participation.** Teachers and Heads, Coordinators are refreshing their strategies, concepts as well as the contents for the next session. **These Teachers, The Coordinators, The Principal, the Parents and the Students have been kept, says President Robbin Ghosh, productively, have kept themselves, very busy indeed!**

The timetable provides ample opportunities to students for learning activities scheduled in the mornings, while the latter part of the day is left to the students for offline pursuits. *The team has also been successful in scheduling one day a week for completing pending work and even had a “screen-free” day. The guidelines that ensure the privacy and data protection along with the online class ‘Essential Agreements’ have been shared with the students.*

Besides academic learning, the MYP-DP team has also considered the holistic development of the learners. As an upshot, sessions such as **Music, Physical Training, Yogic Meditation, Behavioral Counseling, as well as Career Counseling** have been implemented and effectively utilized by trained teachers.

‘Learning to Love to Learn’. The team continues to desire to discover more ways to ensure that learning continues in an increasingly healthy way and provide the best possible learning experiences for students despite difficult condition May 2020! And yet with the blessings and Divine Grace, continue to score the highest at the IB World Examination, in final World Assessment of MYP V (10 Std) & DP II (Worldwide 12 Std)!

PYP & FYP (Primary Years & Foundation Years Program)

*These children, from their very age group of six (6) weeks old to 12 years of age, showed to their parents and teachers, their brilliance, “How to, when situation demands, face such adversities with ‘**no fear ~ no panic**’! And then the tiny ones, are of course, oblivious to the world of threat, but wants to stay busy with active learning.*

An entirely new experience has enveloped us. The entire COVID-19 epidemic has brought with it newer perspectives, challenges, uncertainties, hope and humility too.

So what's up at PYP & FYP:

- Teachers, from home, marking their attendance at 8:30 am every morning and logging off at 4:30 pm every evening of the working days.
- They are assigned tasks on a daily basis.
- Teachers collaborate Grade wide and decide the concepts to be reinforced in a per day basis, week long basis - subject and submit it to be checked.
- Accordingly, they make worksheets, projects to send to the students through google drive on a daily basis to keep the students abreast with their academics and non-academic endeavours at home. The tasks are checked by Head & Coordinator, before sending to the parents.
- Parents are also provided with several digital links related to age appropriate topics.
- Teachers are reading the enhanced PYP documents and studying videos related to PYP on a daily basis.
- They are reflecting on their learning using different strategies provided by us on **Padlet** messaging notice board.
- Teachers are writing 'Digital Report Card Comments' and we are checking them.
- They are also working on grading report card.
- A list of non-screen, amazing activities for students about how they can spend their time creatively at home is provided to the parents and the students are encouraged to choose any one activity every day to enhance their skills. PFA the list of activities.

Our children, from the very beginning of their learning journey, are smart and are aware of what's happening around the world. So please parents it's important to talk to them and explain it. At the same time, we also **need to role model and make sure we follow the norms** like, washing hands with soap, keeping distance, not socializing etc. Sick to a routine, always keep talking and keep the home atmosphere positive.

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To live a life without continuous learning is unthinkable. To keep the essence of this learning in our students' lives the team created a plethora of various learning experiences to enhance various skills like critical thinking skills, research skills, writing skills as well as reading skills. The interesting and challenging tasks planned by the teachers helped the students to be actively engaged and use their time constructively. All the different departments like the Physical Education (P.E), Special Educational Needs (SEN). Arts, Music, Dance and the teachers collaborated and made creative, engaging online worksheets, supported with videos or gave strategies that can be done from home. Our teachers had a range of tasks and throughout the day, worked collaboratively to complete them and reflected on their teaching and learning. All their reflections are being saved on the padlet app which worked out to be a wonderful way of sharing.

They were also given time for self-study and share their creative and new ideas with each other. It also gave teachers time to explore a lot more app, links and become more digitally sound. Lot of hidden talents got uncovered and the air of doing some new and useful learning engagements for our kids is on.

As excellence has no limit and so is learning, we are continuously working on the professional development of our facilitators and creatively, involving learning engagements for our champions. It's sure an opportunity to enhance our knowledge and skills using various online resources to learn and reflect and strive to give our students the best.

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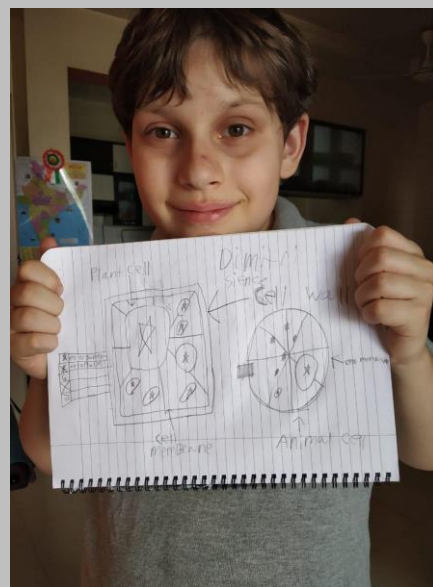
LET'S HEAR IT FROM OUR PARENTS

Reflection from a parent, Pummy Pashankar, "A big thank you to all the teachers, staff who are working from home and taking so much effort to make sure the children are in touch with the academics. Secondly, I would like to say that my **daughters, Simran Pashankar (MYP 4A ~Ninth Satndard) and Samaira Pashankar(PYP 5A ~ Fifth Grade)** have been so sincere and enjoying the virtual classroom study. This was a great initiative taken by VKE school during these times. Despite sitting at home, I admire the dedication my kids have given towards the school and teachers".

Penelope and Barry Rodrigue ~ '**A British National**' ~, parents of Dimitri express their feelings,

"We are very happy with Dimitri's online classes and the commitment to his continued learning. Barry and I had difficulty with the Google classroom management initially and we are sincerely appreciative of your patience in helping us solve those issues. We are onboard with most of the technology now! The daily work is a valued part of Dimitri's routine and we have been pleased with his increasing ability to stick with his work. The teachers give him assignments with appropriate visuals and are generous with their encouragement, so he feels happy to achieve. The topics in the classes have also become points of discussion for us at meals and other times and I believe those conversations have increased our understanding of Dimitri and his way of processing information as well.

Thank you for all you are doing to help keep learning going during these difficult and uncertain times. Please convey our sincere appreciation to all his teachers as well."



Mrs. Urvi Kothari, mother of Indrayu Kothari (MYP 5) reflects

"This whole online school and lockdown has given us an opportunity to self-introspect and learn. I had never thought that Indrayu would be able to grasp and study in this format. I had reservations regarding him absorbing and processing the information.

I cannot be more grateful that it has crossed all barriers not only in my head about what can be achieved but also for Indrayu who is enjoying and achieving his goals. A huge gratitude to all his teachers who have taken out so much time and been continuously keeping him focused

I see so much more interest in him. The promptness of the hours and timetable is amazing. His being disciplined with breaks at regular intervals has done brilliantly for his attention span. The subjects chosen for this period have been very current issue based so have a very practical way to absorb the information.

I would really want to thank each teacher for all the time, patience and so much of effort they have taken for Indrayu".

Pooja gupta

Dear Madam,

Warm Greetings. I wanted to thank each one of you to take all the efforts to plan a daily curriculum for the kids. It would be easy for you to relax and let the year go by. But instead you have decided to send **super interesting activities for the children as reinforcement. Veddansh and Vyom are thoroughly enjoying the daily tasks and look forward to each set. Your carefully curated tasks have made learning so much fun for the kids.**

Just want to thank you for all your sincere efforts.
Warm regards,

Father of Darsh Rathod, PYP 5C wrote;

Thanks for sharing worksheets daily. Darsh is looking forward for daily worksheets and he is enjoying completing it each day and submitting it back to you.

I think, this is also helping him to prepare for MYP1 where there will be more and more work which will be done online.

Darsh is now independently accessing Google drive, completing it and mailing it to you.

#StaySafeStay@Home

Regards,

Manish Rathod

Mother of Priyanka Doshi

We are accessing the google drive every day. Teeya is really enjoying all the activities.

Thanks & Regards,

-

Priyanka Doshi

Mother of Nayraan Sharma PYP4

Yes, he has finished all assignments ...I am encouraging him to write slowly and neatly too. He is self-learning and trying to answer. He only asks when he gets stuck. Actually this is a great way that he sees videos understands and then completes. This is teaching him to be more self-reliant

Thank you for all your efforts and trust and hope your families are safe and doing well.

ENTHUSIASTIC KIDS OF PYP4

Students of PYP 4D from Left to Right,

Ishna, # Neil, # Darsh

Ananya, # Vivaan, # Aryaman



With the advent of weekly virtual classes for PYP 4 students, kids are overwhelmed connecting with their classmates and loving teachers. Even though the connection was virtual, the energy got transmitted just like the aroma of first raindrops.

There was immense delight in the voices of our kids. Their banter, chitter-chatter, incessant queries and anecdotes added cherry to the cake. Surprisingly, the young champions were highly optimistic even during this difficult situation and showed zeal with their work and smiles.

At Victorious Kidss Educares, an IB World School, during the virtual session, teachers connect with the students through various fun activities, interactions, question & answers and tasks for next day. Kids are super happy to have the social connect with their school friends with not just academics, but also PE (Physical Education), Music, Drawing classes, surely, it's a win-win for all!

The one positive thing that will come out of this kind of learning is, our children would become more independent in choosing when and what to learn. If we create children that **love for learning**, they will automatically be researching and trying to find new things to occupy their time with and to be inspired by. **At VKE, we wish to utilize this time to encourage creativity, self-management, and learn life lessons which are equally important.**

With the self-driven efforts, the enthusiastic kids of grade 4 shared following positive messages to keep the affirmations alive in these trying times, **“Tough times don't last, tough people do”**.

Who are these Indians? Aren't they our children of today?

Our children are not the same people, as we were in the school. Their education and schooling are required to be different!

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL PRESIDENT

President Robbin Ghosh says, “Victorious Kidss Educares that has been evaluated by the IBO as a Model International Baccalaureate (IB) World school in Asia, has once again, despite the current global threat, proven its mettle in maintaining the quality of the education it provides. **Not just the students but also the pedagogical leadership team members are actively involved in imparting the necessary training to the teachers.** Important decisions are being made effectively in collaboration, over conference calls and implemented with the help of advanced technologies”.

BUT HOW ARE THEY DOING IT?

The pedagogy leaders are collating and collaborating through conference calls with the quality team and HOD's for planning and reflecting on sessions, helping in the smooth functioning of the e-classes. **Teachers are providing immediate feedback through online knowledge checks, comments on collaborative documents and chat to keep students motivated and moving forward. To keep parents in loop, homerooms are sending the whole day's report along with the next day's schedule.**

Guidelines to ensure the privacy and data protection have been shared with the students, and the teachers were successful in developing the online class “**Essential Agreements**” ~ **a strategy utilized at VKE ~ from its inception ~ to bring out the best as well as establish control. The “Essential Agreements” ~ basically goes back to an understanding of ancient India (Mandakya Upanishad) ~**

“Truth Shall Always Win”. In others have faith on our children ~on the “Human Excellence” They are the Phoenix Bird ~ the humanity shall never die? They are the answers and not the problems?”

We at Victorious Kidss Say, “If the students have not learnt, it is we, the teachers and the school, have not taught? We need to understand that our children are not the people, as we were in the school?”

COVID-19, such a tiny invisible thing to human eyes, yet has brought in such unwanted changes, economic depressions, mental gloominess and unhappiness.

This is the time true education needs to come to our understandings to reduce the Corona virus pain, misery, sufferings? Across the contaminants, nations, Corona has wreaked havoc on the world around us, people have lost their dear ones, their jobs!

But it is heartening to know our darling students, as well as our valued teachers, are operating from within the safety of their homes and yet did not allow the threat to dampen their spirit of “INQUIRY” and true learning. How do we reach them? How do we ensure our students continue to progress on their learning journeys? How to enable our teachers to continue their endeavors without access to ample resources at school? These were some of the questions that struck us, when the school had to shut down ~ suddenly without any time for preparation. While the measures were drastic, it was imperative and necessary for the greater safety and good of all.

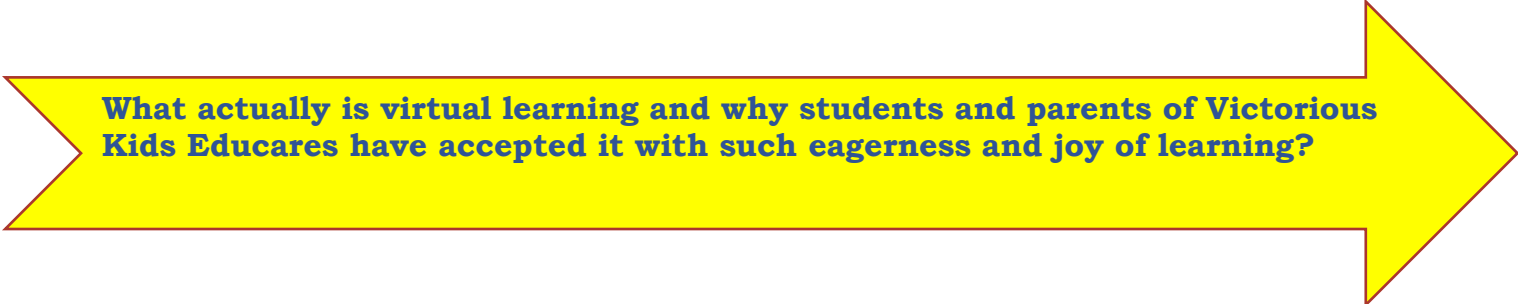
The “Virtual Learning” is great fun and infect our teachers find that our children are more apt with attention and more prompt with creative solutions? Parents are finding, a ‘birth of a new child’ out of the same old child, staying and growing up with me ~ as if ~

“PHOENIX” the mythical bird” ~ is reborn? That is ‘Virtual Learning’?

As per the Times of India Article, at 600 million, [India has the most students](#) in the World. But academic institutions across the world are forced to shut down, due to the threat of COVID 19 coronavirus pandemic, therefore many proactive educational institutions such as Victorious Kidss Educares have upgraded themselves digitally and quickly started to conduct **E-LEARNING sessions**.

At Victorious Kidss Educares, we are already preparing, for future contingencies of ‘only digital schooling’ ~ says, Saarada Ghosh, The Principal, Victorious Kidss Educares ~ An IB School coupled with philosophy of Vedanta!

Online Learning, gets it’s moment due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Digital learning goes mainstream in a hurry and that's going to upend current education practices, models, and processes going forward.



What actually is virtual learning and why students and parents of Victorious Kids Educares have accepted it with such eagerness and joy of learning?

Virtual Learning is computer generated, it is simulated, an educational cybernetic technology on a Web-based platform covering virtually all aspects of teaching and learning.

[Explore the Challenges, in this learning. It becomes an obstacle when you bow to it. Use that external brain as an extension of **your own** brain?](#)

Character: Our teachers, children as well as parents believe in the philosophy of Vedanta, in the purity of the children. They, believe it or not, majority of these children, they do not tell lies. They are also kids, but they are honest, they are creators, they are thinkers, they understand the situation and act accordingly. They also act like children. But they have those characteristics, for which we all love children. Our champions are lifelong learners, they adapt to the situation and not complain about what is not there and act wisely.

Our children are balanced caring communicators, they understand that **change is the only constant thing in life, and they have the right character, the skills to face it and become victorious**

LET'S HEAR IT FROM OUR TEACHERS

Anu George (PYP teacher ~ up to Grade V) says -

'It gave us an opportunity to learn new techniques to keep us apprised for any such future contingencies. Modernistic modes of communication like Padlet, Google Classrooms, Google Hangout, etc., were explored and the same was brought into play to make our activity sheets more interactive and fun.

Anchal Mishra (PYP teacher ~ up to Grade V) says -

Learning must go on and so should sharing, learning and Teaching. "We the teachers of Victorious Kids Educares are all set to make the difference when it matters the most. We are dedicated to performing our duties with a great sense of responsibility and commitment. The technology is making it possible by setting up virtual classrooms for our pupils. A virtual classroom is an online learning environment that allows for live interaction and a shared online space".

Shreya Deshpande (PYP teacher ~Grade V) says -

'The power of mind over events has motivated me during this gloomy situation and helped me to become more positive, strong and active. *I am working in Victorious Kidss Educares, an IB world school, as a homeroom teacher for the last 5 years. I have continuously been updating all my students with online training and training'.*

Pooja Gollapalli (MYP teacher Grade VI till X) says -

The class discussions were consistent, more insightful and reflected a higher level of preparation from the Students. They are now actually reading the material, thinking about it, and responding to my questions that I post'.

Moti Kumari Jha (MYP teacher Grade VI till X) says -

'It was seen students had more interaction and greater ability to concentrate during online classes. This observation supports the research which states online learning increases retention level by 60 %. *My online classes were designed to have students technical skills, collaborative skills, communication, research, and critical thinking skills'*

Rishi Luthra (MYP teacher Grade VI till X) says -

'I feel that despite a few challenges that online teaching and learning offers, this experience has been one filled with immense learning on an independent level. Though the process was guided, students had to majorly take the responsibility of their learning'.

HOW THE CURRENT SITUATION IS BEING HANDLED BY VKE, WHERE IB IS COUPLED WITH VEDANTA?

Our PYP is the home to the most energetic, vibrant, creative, kinesthetic and dynamic learners. Presently, the challenges that have suddenly erupted all around us have brought with them opportunities as well - to do something new, to broaden our perspectives, face the wide world and to learn differently in an innovative yet amazing way.

A challenge only becomes an obstacle when you bow to it.

Covid-19 has wreaked havoc on the world around us but it is heartening to know our darling students, as well as our valued teachers, are operating from within the safety of their homes and yet did not allow the threat to dampen their learning. How do we reach them? How do we ensure our students continue to progress on their learning journeys? How to enable our teachers to continue their endeavors without access to ample resources at school? These were some of the questions that struck us when the school had to shut down suddenly without any time for preparation. While the measures were drastic it was imperative and necessary for the greater good of all.

Be willing to allow your challenges, to become your Motivation.

As we continue to adapt, explore and come up with a variety of means to accomplish our daily tasks, routines and necessary work, it is laudable to see the energy, enthusiasm and willingness of all involved. Everyone is working hard to overcome obstacles and maintain the necessary protocol, seriousness and diligence required ensuring smooth virtual functioning of the school.

This is an entirely new spirit of learning in the air, new experience for us all, and in order to understand how we have evolved over the past week, let's see, explains Shri Ghosh, The President of Victorious Kidss Educares, how is IB different and so learner friendly, so lifelong learner producer? Let us utilize the 6 PYP Transdisciplinary themes to introspect, reflect, assess our position and understand the conceptual learning better?

This is an entirely new experience for us all, and in order to understand how we have evolved over the past week, let's utilize the 6 PYP Transdisciplinary themes to introspect, reflect and assess our position.

PYP TRANSDISCIPLINARY THEMES

Who we are?

We here comprise of the entire PYP staff who are working together harmoniously to ensure an unhindered work productivity and to keep providing school-like experience to our students at home as much as possible. All the PYP teachers, IT staff, Specialists and Librarians are collaborating every day with the PYP Head and Coordinator to come up with a variety of ways to function smoothly virtually. The Principal is monitoring and guiding dynamically and proactively.

Where we are in place and time

Caught up in unprecedented times, and working from within the security of homes, have thrown up some challenges which we handled by providing the required assistance to our teachers in terms of issuance of Laptops, to every teacher to take home, Internet connectivity and access to school server from home.

Many teachers have also made individual trips to the school, when possible and picked up worksheets and books for correction and checking. Currently, before the 15 March. With the uncertainties around us, teachers are continuing to punctually remain available online through WhatsApp groups, Gmail as well as teleconferencing.

How we organize

Our working days start at 8:30 AM daily. The teachers are assigned a list of tasks for the day, which are compiled after a thorough discussion between the PYP Head and Coordinator, approved by the Principal.

The teachers are making commendable efforts to work in an organized fashion, sticking to deadlines for submissions and ensuring that they are done according to criteria provided.

The week-long activities and concepts which will be reinforced day-wise, are planned through grade-wise collaboration and submitted to their Head and Coordinator for checking at the beginning of the week. This enables us to stay focused and keep ourselves on track as we try to create a balanced academic and non-academic learning experience for our students. Teachers log off at 4:30 PM every day.

How the world works

Right now, our world i.e., the virtual world of learning at PYP is a work-in-progress.

Recently we enabled access to Google Drives per class. Teachers are making worksheets daily based on concepts that were taught previously across all the disciplines. The worksheets include skill-based activities, practice work as well as hands-on project work, which are aimed at keeping the students' creative juices flowing. After the cross-checking and minute proof-reading of worksheets covering all PYP subjects, they are uploaded on daily basis, to the Google Drive which parents can access easily from home. Currently, teachers are also making smart use of their anecdotes and writing the Report Card comments, further submitting it to their Head and Coordinator for checking. Teachers are also doing Report Card marking using ERP in order to grade their students' performance for this term.

How we express ourselves

Interactive virtual learning, multimodal approaches and several learning Apps are taking the forefront which our teachers are confidently exploring with the help of the IT department. For example, the interesting and insightful reflections of the teachers, following their daily self-study sessions based on the enhanced PYP, are being recorded on Padlet links with many of them using a creative audio-video approach as well.

Thanks to Technology, we at PYP are accomplishing more than we had earlier anticipated and this itself is a small victory for us all.

Sharing the planet

We as teachers completely understand the role that parents have had to take up suddenly which involves some homeschooling, supervision and regular checking for updates from us.

The appreciation we have received from parents, as we together work cooperatively in order to share the responsibility of our students' learning endeavors, is extremely motivating for all of us.

We are also encouraging our students to take up independent self-learning, household chores and non-screen activities by sending them a plethora of ideas and ensuring that they can always come back to us with their doubts and questions.

In conclusion, this is a testing yet opportunistic moment for us all, which we can pass only through perseverance and resilience.

We are proud of our teachers for their hard work and sincerity as well as the way they have shown flexibility and readiness along with full enthusiasm, as we navigate through impediments every day and yet come out with a sense of accomplishment at the end of each day. We are also very grateful to our parents for cooperating with us and keeping our little champions engaged with the learnings provided by us.

Neil Gandhi from PYP 4D has decided to take an action driven by hope ~ a small step that he hopes will go a long way for the people we love, our communities and our society in general. Every day, during these 21 days of mandatory lockdown, Neil will record a short video of optimism, what he feels and how we will get over this, through his unfiltered perspective.

Neil sincerely hopes that we will get over this and emerge much stronger and better citizens of this world. **We are in this together, and we will defeat this virus!**

You can watch the first part of his video series here –

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXSIVxOe_f0&feature=youtu.be

PYP EXHIBITION

PYP 5 A :

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1hEAYsUsoGAIp_E44rYV_jqA-sBD9QwN_

PYP 5 B

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1s4k5_ok2lT0BKnbAJ3rIN0OiMWRyqgeL

PYP 5 C

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1A2ShOOz9EphsqNhJdZttZOTxSml6qfnc>

PYP 5 D

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1BnSxIH8tNjNqkR5PRkyoG1CDu-qeg36L>

