



Virtual Learning The New Normal

Inspiring 'Learning to Love to Learn' ~ our team continues to discover more ways to ensure that learning continues in an increasingly progressive way and provide the best possible learning experiences for students.

MYP-DP
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Student engagement is the key to a successful learning journey and therefore, various online platforms will be used to make learning fun-filled yet meaningful for the students. Several tools through which students will be actively engaged are Managebac, Skype, Google Classroom, YouTube videos, Quizlet, Kahoot app etc. These innovative apps and websites will provide visual learning through videos, organize student learning, remind students about upcoming assignments and homework, provide group collaboration, and provide check-ups on learning through games and online quizzes.

Learning Must Continue

We are equally aware how important it is to bring life to the lesson as students learn best by experiencing and visualizing.

Considering this, teachers have planned to introduce virtual field trips and online lab activities to make learning effective and meaningful during these times. We hope to have a challenging yet wonderful session ahead!

Learn from Yesterday,
Live for Today, Hope for
Tomorrow!



Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change

IB is also extending its support to produce an authentic learning experience suitable for every student with resources able to be used with minimal adaptation. Broad inquiry questions that address a statement of inquiry, assessment materials and suggested tasks are made available for teachers and students. Webinars and additional resources by IB will help balance the implementation flexibility and ease-of-use in varying learning contexts.

Career Counsellors at VKE would help students in academic settings, aiding students in building future educational or career paths. They would assist students evaluate their abilities and interests, overcome challenges and obstacles, and develop necessary skills.

Amidst all these new changes to learning, here's what VKE's students have to say:

"As a student, you're constantly searching for new ways to learn. When I had first heard of online classes, I was apprehensive as to how it would work with our school, and how it would affect teaching and learning. Hearing rumors of unsafe and unsecure calls, lag spikes, and constant screen time, worried me and my peers.



However, the steps that the school has taken with regards to time slot flexibility, teacher availability, easy-to-use platforms, and interactive smart learning apps, make learning a more enjoyable process for us students, in this time of unrest.

Online classes aren't perfect however, as the occasional power outages or internet cuts tend to disrupt learning and activities for all subjects. However, in saying that, the classes that we've had, for the most part, have been smooth, interactive, and productive, allowing us to express our thoughts and ideas easily to our teachers and our peers."

~ Ehsas Kakkar, DP2

"The world is full of crises right now; all humans are having a tough time. But as they say learning never stops, and so most of the students in the world expect that their journey does not stop. Our school has organised online classes which in my opinion have been very successful until now.

It's only the second day of school and it feels nothing less than normal to me. All my teachers are very co-operative and supportive. I am thankful that even in this difficult situation Victorious Kidss Educares is taking care of their students and making sure they journey does not stop."

~ Sai Agate, MYP5

From the Principal's Desk



The Shift in Mindset!

The contagion of the COVID-19 pandemic that we are currently facing is daunting and has shaken us all. In this situation, it is easy to feel discouraged, wondering what will happen. It is easy to let negative thoughts and feelings overpower us.

This pandemic is something that we never experienced before. The economy of the entire world is shaken. People are not able to go to work, children are not able to attend school, our social lives are shaken, having to stay apart from all the people we love, with all the fear and uncertainty. It has also shaken the emotional well-being of many people.

But remember this pandemic has also brought in the contagion of hope and faith, a powerful force that can indeed help to heal our planet, boost our immune systems and encourage us to reflect on how we can be better; how we can each be a miracle to the world around us.

We can easily get disheartened and wonder, "Why did it happen?". However, if we keep the right attitude, we will come to realize that this shaking is not here to STOP us but to SHIFT us. All you need to do is keep a positive mindset, where you shift on to better things, better influence, and into better relationships.

If it wasn't for the pandemic, we would have never got out of our comfort zone. We may not like it, but it's forcing us to change, it is forcing us to grow and this growth will help us reach our potential.

The reason God has arranged this shaking is to shift you into something better. It may look like a setback, but we all are being set up. Maybe what seems like a loss, is actually a gain in disguise, you are going to come across new opportunities; the doors that weren't open before, will be open for you. You will discover a talent within you, which you may have never noticed before.

In order to achieve this, we first need to overcome the "Virus" that is living within us and slowing us down, i.e. bad attitude, unforgiveness, limited thinking, insecurity, and the list goes on. We will need to get rid of these negative attributes that are stopping and hindering our growth.

Introspect yourself. Where do I need to change? What can I do differently to make myself more productive, more passionate, more loving, more generous? Once you embrace these shakings in life, you are going to come to a level that you never dreamed of, things that couldn't happen, are already now headed your way. It is just a matter of time before you seek the universal power to do unprecedented things.

We need to realize that it's just a test period for all of us, good days surely wait ahead of the tunnel, we need to find that light within and follow it to the end.

"STAY POSITIVE, GOOD THINGS WILL HAPPEN!"



When you put faith,
hope and love
together
You can achieve
anything

Making the Most

In addition to instilling a sense of fear and panic, COVID-19 is changing the very definition of 'normalcy' and the humdrum of our daily lives. With school closed, playtime cut out, and the inability to meet friends, a majority of teenagers are spending their days whiling away time on Instagram or scrolling through memes for hours on end.

However, VKE's students have taken it upon themselves to make the most of this pandemic, turning it from an obstacle into an opportunity. From indoor marathons, films, dance choreographies and art competitions to simply helping out in household chores, there's no stone left unturned. Here are some of the exciting projects that students have taken up...

Kshitij Palekar from DP2 hasn't let the pandemic halt his plans to do an internship. He has been filling in as a Tool-room Manager for SIRAS Engineering Pvt. Ltd., which is currently short-staffed due to the lockdown.



Maintaining a record of the 169 tools in the manufacturing unit, issuing receipts, sending the tools for sharpening, liaising with the Supervisor and reporting to the Production Manager are few among the many duties that Kshitij fulfils. Kshitij emerged as a knight-in-shining armour for the company, and learned a thing or two along the way!

Meanwhile, **Hazel Manghrani** from MYP5 has been spending more time with her art supplies than her family members. Over the past few weeks, she has tediously created a remarkable art mural project. One year ago, Hazel attended a mural workshop by Sneha Chakraborty; however, she never found the time to put her skills to use.

Now, with all the time she needs to perfect every stroke, Hazel has done an outstanding job indeed!





MYP5's **Antara Manurkar** has been pursuing an online course from Copenhagen Business School. Seeing the first-hand effects of human activity in causing climate change through the early monsoons and impending cyclone urged her to learn about transformation to sustainable businesses. From essential business models to plausible solutions, she is undertaking an intensive course in sustainable fashion. Antara is surely going to be a citizen who creates a better tomorrow for us all!

"In these hard times, we must remember the values of empathy and thoughtfulness instilled in us at VKE. These students are a true inspiration to the rest of us and we must continue to create, innovate and work hard."
- Gayatri Sahaay, DP2

And most plausible is **Aadi Karnavat's** remarkable transformation of a huge garbage dump near our school into a beautiful garden. As the lockdown progresses, Aadi continues to tend to his plants and maintain the sanitation of the previously unsightly area. His project is so incredible that it landed him to be featured in the Times Of India. Kudos to his extraordinary vigour and initiative!

"We must use time creatively, in the knowledge that the time is always ripe to do right."
~ (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr).



Through the Lens of a Sixteen-Year Old

"The coronavirus pandemic has brought great strife to millions of families. With the elderly at risk, children highly prone to the contagion, labourers starving, economies collapsing and businesses struggling to break even, nature has put humanity to its hardest test. While it is easy for me to sit cozied up in room with my computer on my lap, typing this up, I know that I remain completely untouched and unaffected and that I am hardly aware of the hard reality of the situation on ground. And for this, I'm so very grateful. Now more than ever before, I'm so grateful that I was born to my mother and not to her maid, that I have ice-cream lying in the fridge and sanitizer ready at the door. That while I'm sitting in the warmth of my room discussing Pythagoras on a Zoom meeting, somewhere, not too far away, another sixteen-year-old is sitting on a dingy crowded bus, luggage in hand, fleeing to her village. That, while I sit surrounded by loved ones gorging on the season's juicy mango harvest, the very farmer who grew those mangoes sits in despair looking haplessly at his now flooded and destroyed fields.

Some might hold the view that there's nothing we can do about it, or that it's not our fault. And while we might let the guilt of all our luxuries and pleasures eat away at us, the real solution that we must act on is to seek redemption. Redemption is in realising that because we have been blessed enough to be safe and to have so much time at our disposal, it is incumbent upon us to make the most of it. It would be ungrateful, no, it would be sinful, to be not achieving our potential and working hard enough to become the decision-makers of tomorrow. It is our duty to ensure that, thirty years down the line, when another pandemic strikes, the world is in better hands than it is in today. And that no sixteen-year-old in this world has to ever be compelled to not grab every opportunity that life throws at her."

~ Gayatri Sahaay, DP2, Victorious Kidss Educares