**NEWS LETTER / JAN 2021** 

#### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We welcome a new year of hope and respite, 2021, which brings with it the anti-COVID vaccines and a sigh of relief. Notwithstanding every change around us, the children enjoyed displaying their talents during our Annual Surabhi-2020-2021 and regaled all. Here are reports from each of their sections in their own words. These young, budding Nation's future resolve to change many more things for the New Year.

#### **ANNUAL DAY GRADE-5A SURABHI REPORT**

On the evening of 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 Deens Academy school celebrated its first ever virtual annual day woven around the theme 'Around the world'. Grade 5-A was to enact Russia. It was a different annual day but the students of Grade 5-A were up to the task. The show was comprised of an informative skit on Russian revolution, depiction of various famous personalities across all professions like Science, Literature, Art, Space etc. Melodious songs, pop dances which inspired the audience to shake a leg, kalinka dances, ballet dances, folk dances followed by the National Anthem as a tribute to our Nation. The Russian background music and visuals enthralled the viewers. The annual day preparation and the outcome left behind lasting memories. It was a show which will never be forgotten. This triumph was possible by the relentless efforts of our Parents, near and dear, Teachers, Prachi ma'am, IT department, Principal and last but not the least the 5 A students.

#### Manav Bhatia 5-A

## **ANNUAL DAY – 5B**

The 2020-21 Surabhi's theme was "Culture of Different Countries" as in the pandemic we are not able to travel anywhere. My class, 5-B, got the country Nepal. We were divided into teams, depending on what we wanted to do. This was a new experience to both, Remedios, a student in my class was not only a part of the skit but also students and teachers as we had to do everything online. Dylan Ro, he was the one who collated the whole classes' video. The teachers put a lot of effort editing the videos we made for our performance. My friend Myrah and I were doing a duet on the song "Choli Ramro Palpali Dhakako." On the day of the annual day, it was very unfortunate that some people could not see the final video as they were traveling but I am sure that whenever they would watch it, they would love it!

Our classmate, Neharika.P says,' I enacted Pushpa Basnet. It was little difficult for us because it was virtual, but we practiced every day after class. My parents watched the annual day with me on 5<sup>th</sup> December. They found it very creative. Hence, this year's annual day was a new experience for us.'



This year the Annual Day "SURABHI" in Deens Academy was done online. We took videos of our performance and sent it to our class teacher. We were also given various topics. My class which is 5-C got to present the country Spain. We chose what we wanted to do. I decided to sing in Spanish. The song I chose was 'Remember Me' or 'Recuerdame' in Spanish from the movie 'Coco'. It was difficult to learn the song since it was in Spanish, but after listening to it many times I could sing it. As for my costume, I wore a long, green, Spanish skirt along with a green top and a yellow flower. We made paper flowers in the colours that match to my costume. The other students in my class performed for many other items like mime, Bull dance, Flamenco dance, speeches on different festivals, landmarks and famous personalities, puppet shows and skit. The skit was called 'Pollitto Tito' which means 'Little Chick' in English. Usually for the Annual Day, we do the dances, songs, mimes, skits etc together in a group or a pair, but this year we got an opportunity to put forth our creative skills and do it alone so it was a little different experience but I am eagerly waiting to see the final video. I think this Annual Day was filled with fun and excitement.

**ANNUAL DAY - 5C** 

Brinda Hisada 5C

# **ANNUAL DAY - 5D**

## Dear All,

Want to convey my sincere Thanks to all the people behind the scenes - Principal Shanti Mam, Vice Principal Amrita Jagannath Mam, Support staff, IT staff, All my Teachers and last but not the least to my dear Parents, in making the first ever virtual Annual day 'Surabhi 2020' of Deens Academy, a great success. Also, would like to thank Shabnam mam in providing me opportunities to showcase my talent on a few occasions during the Annual Day. I thoroughly enjoyed my participation as well as watching performances of my creative and talented 5D friends.

#### Alekhya Krishnan 5D

## **SURABHI 2020 IN 5E**

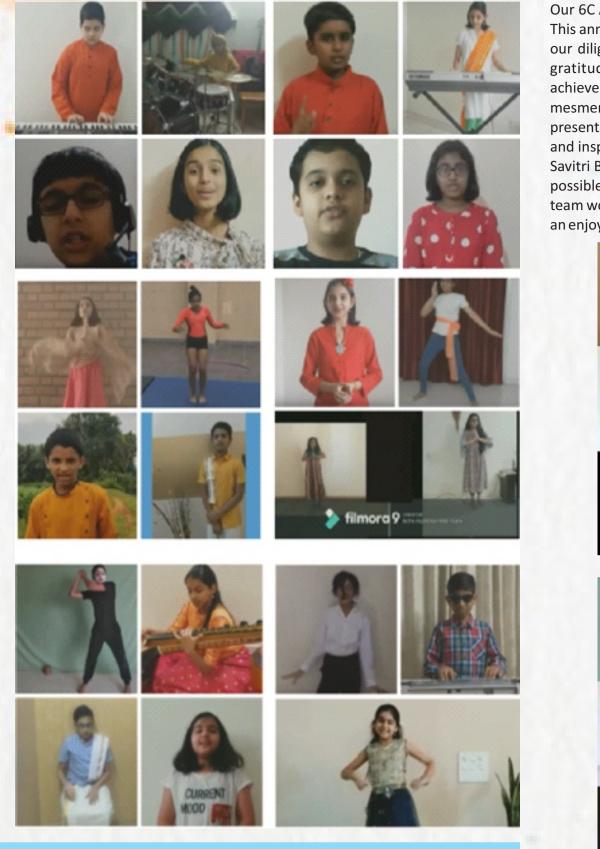
The theme for my grade, 5<sup>th</sup>, was '80 Minutes around the World'. Every class chose a country to perform on. My class, 5E, chose Australia. All of us put effort to rehearse and record videos remotely in such pandemic situation. There were so many beautiful performances - skits on Australia's wildlife or landmarks,

My most favourite performance was the skit 'The Corporate Bunch of 5E Transfer to Australia' (nope, neither they are corporates nor were they transferred to Australia). It was informative and at the same time entertaining.

Even if the skit being my most favourite, I loved all the performances. It was a

## **GRADE 6B ANNUAL DAY GLIMPSES**

## VIRTUAL ANNUAL DAY 6C 2020



## **GRADE 6B- ANNUAL DAY WRITE UP**

The covid-19 pandemic is the reason schools are closed but that did not stop the Deenites from celebrating their Annual day - Virtual Surabhi 2020, an event that cannot be missed.

Class 6B of Deens Academy celebrated their Virtual Surabhi 2020 on 5th of December 2020. The theme for the event was "Incredible India". The two-hour long event held the audience in awe and left them enlightened as the show culminated.

The children showcased their talents like singing, playing musical instruments, dance, skit, anchoring, and public speaking on the theme. The event gave a perfect opportunity for all the students to not only showcase their talents but

Our 6C Annual day was based on the topic theme "Celebrating Womanhood". This annual day was unique as it was showcased virtually but that did not affect our diligence and enthusiasm. Through this event we expressed our utmost gratitude to the women in our life and also highlighted the laudable achievements of women around the world each day. The event was certainly mesmerizing with all the wonderful skits, dances, songs, poems and talks presented by the students of 6C with utmost zeal. We ourselves felt over awed and inspired by the multifold achievements of women such as Geeta Phoghat, Savitri Bai Phule, Marie Curie, Rani Lakshmi Bai and Kiran Bedi. This event was possible only due to the motivation and planning of our dear teachers and the team work of Deenites of 6C. Co-ordinating and executing the event online was an enjoyable and a learning experience.













also work in collaboration and cooperation. The event was not only a cultural process but also an educational process. As a Deenite family we all bonded together and had great fun.

- G. Meenakshi 6B

# 6D SURBHI

Surabhi is an event held every alternate year for students to showcase their artistic talents and skills. Although the pandemic was expected to bring down all the fun and co-curricular activities in our school, we overcame that and tried our best to make our virtual experience no different from our physical, normal one.

Surabhi 2020 was held virtually and the students made a documentary of India's Unity in Diversity. We were divided into groups, each for a part of India and we all had meetings to discuss roles of each person. And finally, all videos were put together to bring a fantabulous show by 6D.

- Julia Berchmans 6D



# **SURABHI 2020**

As a famous quote goes - "The measure of intelligence is the ability to change". The current pandemic has caused our whole life to change. From staying inside our homes, to schooling becoming virtual, we never expected all this to happen. But the smart thing to do was to adapt to these changes.

At Deens Academy, we adapted by conducting all those events online which would normally be conducted in person, like the Annual Day – Surabhi 2020.

For Surabhi 2020, each section of each grade chose different topics. We, the students of 7C, chose the topic "Breaking Stereotypes".

To begin with, we divided ourselves into different groups and collaborated within our groups. We really enjoyed preparing for the show together through the online collaboration tools.

Our class teacher, Vineetha Ma'am, reviewed our scripts, and we started the recording after we got a thumbs-up from her. Before we knew it, it was 5th December and our annual day was live-streamed to our parents. When we received an amazing response from all the parents, we were on cloud nine! We had broken the stereotype of usual Annual days and adapted to this new normal.

Needless to say, the experience was very unique, and overall we all loved it.

-Saaliha Bilal, 7C

#### SURABHI 2020 - 7E

When there is light, there is always a shadow. When there is good, there is always evil but in the end, good always triumphs. The students of grade 7E had put up a series of performances, as an act or a skit or dance to demonstrate that evil may exist in many forms, but in the end the good always prevails.

The opening performance was by Team Shivaya, consisting of Tavishi, Shreya, Diya and Manasvi, who showcased a fascinating story of Shiva, who is the supreme being and the destroyer of evil. They displayed their love and devotion towards Lord Shiva in the form of Indian classical dance.

There's nothing more magnificent than fantasies and fiction tales. Many of the happily ever after stories convey morals that good is always victorious over the evil. The Admirable Four, including Ashana G, Hritika, Radha and Mihira, in the form of a skit showed us that behind the covers of poverty and helplessness, a young wise boy named Aladdin fought the evil sorcerer Jafar and saved the kingdom.

Team Epic, comprising of the duo Tanuja and Saach, performed a dance drama on Ramayana. They displayed how the strong, dutiful, righteous Ram, obeyed his father and went into exile for fourteen years along with his wife Sita and a loyal brother named Lakshman. It was an enthralling tale of sacrifice, hardship and victory of good over the evil.

The next performance put up by The Incredibles-Ansh, Yuvraj, Rishika and Aashna P demonstrated how we all have faced the difficult hours during covid. In the form of a skit they demonstrated how the doctors have been working hard day and night in order to protect the lives of our loved ones. They are selfless and are ready to help all of us. Have you ever been to a beach? Isn't it pleasant, nice and cool? But, have you heard about Dumas beach in Surat, Gujrat? Well, I am not planning to write a lot about it. So, it is quite contrary to a normal beach!

So, what is so creepy about this beach??

Phmas Beach is known for its black sand and is

Considered to be haunted. It once used to be a Hindu burial site, according to folklore!

Scared right? If not, I have some more spooky facts!

There are reported paranormal activities at night

It is one of most haunted places in India...

The End!

By, Saachi Stuti, 7E

# **SURABHI 2020 8A**

This year, amidst the pandemic situation, we at Deens Academy accomplished the impossible – Surabhi 2020. All the faculty, students, and parents worked together to make this huge mission a success. As the events were class-wise this year, we started planning about a month before the final showcase. After school, our teachers scheduled meetings for us, where we all came together and our class teacher, Shobhana ma'am explained the plot of the play to us. We had named our play as '**The Return of The Sleuths'**. In this play, Sherlock Holmes, and his loyal assistant Dr. Watson, solve the mystery of a kidnapped scientist who was on the verge of discovering a vaccine for a deadly virus.

Many international folk dances and songs were included in the play, with a standup comedy adding a touch of humour too. After all the roles and lines were assigned, we all started meeting every day after school to rehearse and record videos and audios of our performances at home. Once all the videos were ready, our talented editors put everything together and finished the masterpiece. On 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2020, we all sat with our parents and friends to watch the live screening of our annual day online. It was an amazing experience and I would like to thank our supporting teachers, Shobhana ma'am and Prachi ma'am ; students and parents who helped in making this a huge success.

### - Simran Mittal 8A



We all have heard about the tales of Robin Hood, who is a kind and generous person and is ever ready to help the less fortunate and the poor and needy, while the rich, who are extremely selfish and often mistreat the poor. Team Messiah-Akshat, Aryaveer, Aniket, Aarush and Ashwath, exhibited an act that showed how Robin Hood took away the gold from the rich; so that he can he could give it to the poor and needy.

As we are in lockdown, the annual day function was showcased virtually. It was a totally new experience for all. We all worked hard in putting up this show but it wouldn't have been possible without the constant support of our class teacher Rakhi Mukherjee ma'am. She has always been very nurturing and supportive of all our ideas. Last but not the least; I would like to extend my regards to our beloved principal Shanthi Mam, Headmistress Sarla Ma'am and Deens Academy for providing us this platform to express ourselves.

Manasvi Mishra 7E

#### ANNUAL DAY OF 2020 8B

The Corona virus has changed all of our lives in many ways and the same way it has affected the annual day of the students of grade 8 B. Unlike our usual annual days, this year it was completely virtual and a unique experience.

The theme for our class was India from north to south. The first step was to form a script writing team that made a script consisting of a skit with many exuberant dances and songs. The skit was about a family that goes on a journey to explore the beauty and hidden gems of our wondrous nation, like its scenic beauty, vast diversity and rich cultural heritage. Then the students interested in music and dance formed groups of their own and began practicing. Some students also opted for stand-up comedy, to add a sense of humour to our skit. Next, we assigned roles to all the actors. After a week everyone finished recording their parts and the editing began.

All the clips were sent to our editors, who were also students of our class and the final video was ready. We all got the link to watch it on December 5<sup>th</sup> and it turned out amazing! All of our hard work and efforts had truly paid off.

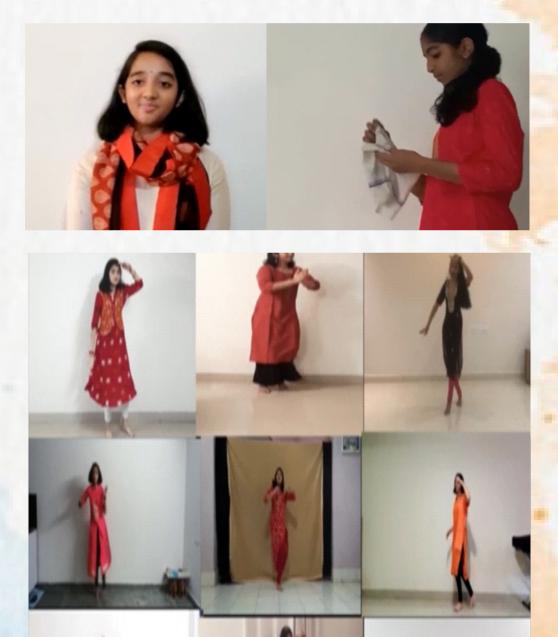


Nihitha Srinivasan 8B

#### **SURABHI - 8E**

The theme selected by our class this year was "Asian Folklores". Our class portrayed the folk activities of many countries in Asia such as India, Bhutan, Myanmar, Japan and many more. Our show started off with Arunima giving a welcome speech. Following closely, was Manya and her team who portrayed a folktale from Bhutan. Next up, Aditya Babu and his team showcased a folktale from Tajjekistan. We visited the land of Uzbek, Uzbekistan next. Niharika and her talented teammates beautifully enacted the story of how Uzbek received the beautiful land of Uzbekistan. Our show was made lively and musical when we had a dance performance by the talented girls of 8E. It was choreographed by Anvesha and Vartika and was based on the folkdances of China, Japan and India. After this musical performance, we had Vartika and her team who showed us a folktale from Myanmar. Everyone loves a horror story, right? So to give us some chills, we had Aparajita and her team who told us about the story of the poor Okiku and her merciless master. Bhumro, bhumro, shyam rang bhumro.... The melodious song of Bhumro was sung by some of the singers of 8E. We also had Anvesha and her team take us to Assam where they showed us a famous folktale of the place. Finally, it was time to say goodbye. Our annual day ended with Arunima giving a vote of thanks, where she expressed her gratitude towards every person who helped make this show successful.

Each and every student was a reason for this show's success. And each and every moment was my personal favorite. Here are a few snapshots from our annual day :)



## **8D ANNUAL DAY REPORT**

Class 8D chose East India as the main topic for annual day. Each state had various performances which had been planned and executed by the students and teachers of our class. We started with a beautiful parody along with an informative talk. The welcome speech was lined up next followed by an amazing video. We then started the main show with the 7 sisters which had multiple dances, songs, talks and wonderful information about famous personalities from those states. We took a small break from our usual events for a spectacular skit on wildlife conservation. The next bit had another famous personality, 2 multi-lingual talks and a dance. We ended with the grand finale and the vote of thanks. All-in-all it was a wonderful experience for learning various skills in the tough times of the pandemic.



Arani Jain 8D