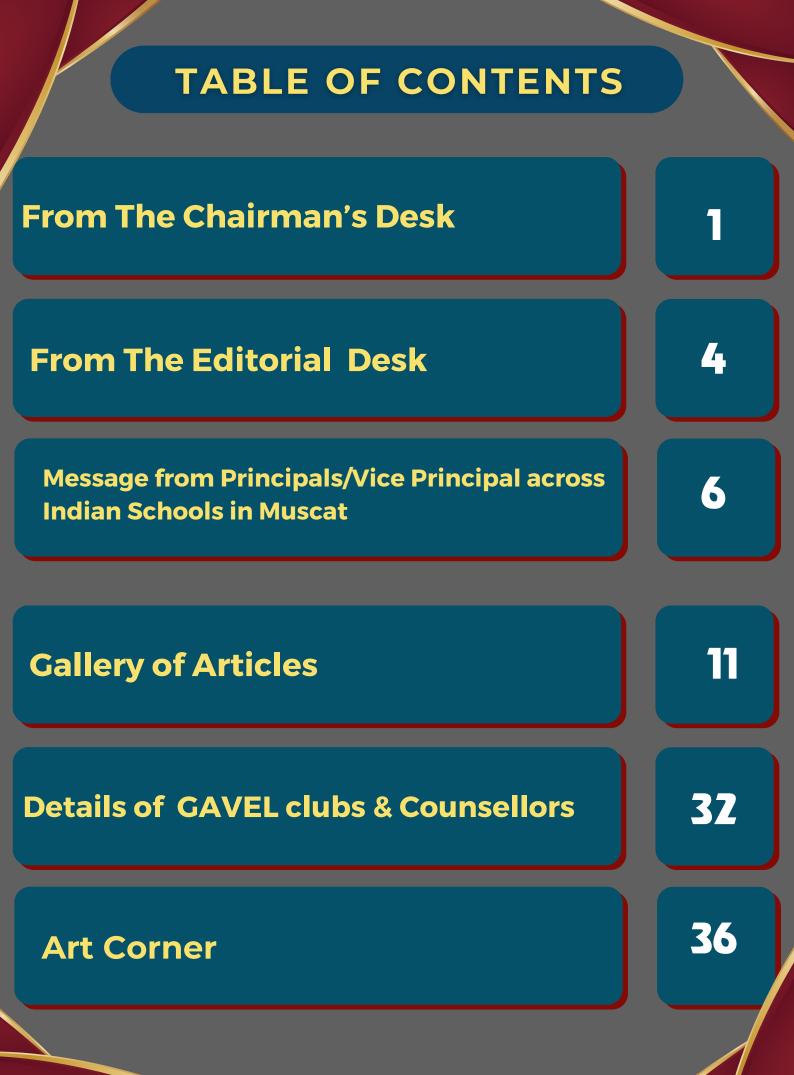
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From The Chairman's Desk

"Don't raise your voice improve your argument" – Desmond Tutu Happy New Year 2025!

You may have left many things half done or may have procrastinated when you wanted to do something new. Do not keep worrying about the past, get to work during this beautiful year. There are many new things you can learn as you move higher in class.



The semifinal of the Oman Gavel Championship of Public Speaking 2025 was conducted on Friday, 31st January 2025 among 32 Gavel clubs in Oman, there were around 256 contestants who contested in the semifinals. The winners of the semifinals will be contesting in the finals which will be held on Saturday, 1st February 2025 at the Indian School, Bousher, Multipurpose Hall. We expect marvelous presentations from the Gaveliers.

The Counselors have done a remarkable job of training the Gaveliers throughout the year at the Gavel clubs and it is good to note that most of the gavel clubs conduct their regular meetings in person. I express my gratitude to all the counselors and Toastmasters for all their cooperation, thus making OGCPS 2025 happen.

We may encounter a lot of challenges in life, how we overcome those challenges is for us to think and come up with solutions so that we develop ourselves and become a better person in life.

I wish the Gaveliers and the Counselors, all the best for the Oman Gavel Championship of Public Speaking 2025.

"The most powerful person in the world is the storyteller. The storyteller sets the vision, values, and agenda of an entire generation that is to come"

Cyprian Misquith, DTM, Chairman, Oman Gavel Championship of Public Speaking 2025, Sultanate of Oman





Contests are more than just competitions—they're opportunities to grow, learn, and shine! When you passionately devote your time to it, you are not just sharpening your public speaking skills; you are, in fact, taking a great leap in your planning and critical thinking abilities.

Every contest is a chance to expand your comfort zone, build confidence, and discover your unique voice. Win or lose, you'll walk away stronger and more prepared for future challenges. Congratulations to all who embraced the stage, gave their best, and experienced themselves growing!

DTM Saiju Victor, District 105 Director, Toastmasters International

District Trio - District 105 Director



District Trio - Club Growth Director

Dear Gaveliers,

At the outset, I feel elated to write on the eve of Oman Gavel Championship 2025. This championship is not just about competition, but about fostering communication, leadership, and community. Each participant will have the opportunity to challenge themselves, grow, and inspire others with their voice Each one of you has



shown tremendous dedication to improving not just your public speaking skills but your leadership abilities as well. You've faced challenges, stepped outside your comfort zones, and learned valuable lessons along the way. These are the moments that will shape you into confident leaders and communicators who can tackle any future obstacle with resilience and poise. Your enthusiasm, your courage, and your willingness to learn and grow are what make you truly special

Remember, success is not defined by perfection, but by the effort you put into learning and improving. Each time you speak in front of an audience—whether large or small—you're not just sharing words; you're building a future where your voice will make a difference. Keep pushing yourself, keep challenging yourself, and never forget that you have the power to inspire others.

We are incredibly proud of everything you have accomplished thus far, but this is only the beginning. The tools you've learned through your Gavel Club experience will continue to grow and evolve with you. So, keep learning, stay curious, and keep striving for greatness.

I appreciate the contributions of all of our Gavel Club coordinators and counselors. You are our unsung heroes because you are always patient, wise, and supportive. The coordinators' and counselors' assistance in helping each individual realize their full potential is a clear indication of their commitment to developing the next generation of leaders. Thank you for everything you do for our gavel community, and keep inspiring more.

Ramanujam Raghavan,DTM Club Growth Director – District 105 2024-2025



EDITORIAL Team







TM Ann Thomas

TM Anu B Mathew

TM Sneha Shamin



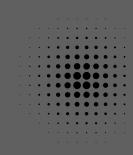
TM Priya K Thomas



TM Divya Kurupath



Roopa Mankavil



From The Editorial Desk



Dear GAVELiers

Each day presents a fresh canvas for you to paint your dreams, polish your skills, and build the version of yourself you aspire to be. As members of this



vibrant GAVEL Club, you are on a journey of self-discovery and growth. With every speech you deliver, every leadership role you embrace, and every moment you step out of your comfort zone, you are bettering yourself and inspiring those around you.

Challenges may feel daunting, but remember—they are stepping stones, not roadblocks. Learn from your mistakes, celebrate your progress, and never stop striving to improve. Success doesn't come from staying still but from the courage to take action, no matter how small the step.

Lift each other up, share your ideas boldly, and embrace the beauty of collaboration. Together, we grow stronger and achieve more than we ever could alone.

As Henry Ford once said, 'If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.'

Keep aiming high, stay positive, and remember—you are unstoppable! 📌

TM Ann Thomas Editor in Chief



From The Editorial Desk



Dear young minds

A year of new possibilities, dreams and aspirations has begun, and we've already stepped into the second month. Time seems to be flying by. It's a wonderful time of year, with so much happening around us. It's a habitual action for many to take resolutions at this time of the year and as months pass by, those fade away and even the slightest memory of it.

Is 2025 going to be yet another one where we are just done with one year and yet done nothing? Nay! Let this be a year that stirs up light and fire and let that light the spark of curiosity and excitement within us to do more for ourselves and the world around us..

Children, you are left with 11 months. Time is prompt to fly but it's here to stay for those energetic and enthusiastic minds who wish to make use of the time available and give their best. As we grow older by a year in 2025, we need to make sure that we have learnt new skills, done something that will boost our confidence, appreciate our innate talents and create a lasting impact. For those of you who have not yet thought this way, today is the day to start. You have a world of opportunities in front of you and it's you who needs to take the first leg. The world behind you may charge you positively or negatively. Charge yourself, stay focused and reach the goal. Remember, the goal post is in the front. Let's charge ourselves, make use of the opportunities that our parents, schools and society open for our nourishment and growth. When we flip through the calendar in 2026, may 2025 be a year filled with learning, a year filled with growth both in stature and wisdom, a year which we would like to reminisce over and over again. May you begin a new page where you have plenty of pleasant experiences and learnings to share! Let this page be the beginning of a new chapter in your life!

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Wishing you a fantastic 2025! Anu B. Mathew





Dear GAVELiers and Toastmasters,

It gives me immense pride to witness the passion and dedication of the GAVEL Club and Toastmasters at ISWK. Your unwavering commitment to honing communication, leadership, and public speaking skills reflects the true essence of personal growth and empowerment.



The GAVEL Club has become a vibrant platform where ideas are shared, confidence is nurtured, and creativity flourishes. Each session, speech, and debate is a step towards building the leaders of tomorrow. I am particularly inspired by the way our students embrace challenges, support one another, and continue to grow into articulate and empathetic individuals.

As you embark on yet another exciting academic year, I encourage you to push boundaries, explore new ideas, and take every opportunity to learn from one another. Remember, the ability to communicate effectively is one of the most powerful tools you will ever possess.

Keep striving for excellence, and let your voices inspire change, innovation, and progress. You are the torchbearers of ISWK's legacy, and I have no doubt that your journey with the GAVEL Club and Toastmasters will leave an indelible mark on our school community.

Wishing you continued success in all your endeavors!

Warm regards, D N Rao Principal,Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir





Communication is key in today's world . The Gavel Clubs in our school are helping to hone the communication skills of our students. Our aim is to ensure that they become skilled communicators when they graduate from school. I would like to express my gratitude to my colleagues who are working with them to make them confident speakers.

Papri Ghosh Principal,Indian School Al Ghubra





Dear Gavel Club Members,

It fills me with immense pride to address the brilliant minds of our Gavel Club. You have embarked on an extraordinary growth journey, where each word you speak has the power to shape your future.

Public speaking is not just about expressing ideas but about igniting passion, sparking change, and inspiring others. It is about mastering the art of clear communication, which is an essential skill for leadership, success, and personal growth. As you refine your skills, remember that leadership is not defined by titles but by your ability to inspire, listen, and lead with conviction. Every session is an opportunity to stretch your limits, embrace new challenges, and break barriers. You are learning to become fearless communicators, confident in your ideas, and unafraid to stand tall in the face of any audience. The ability to communicate effectively in diverse situations will set you apart, both in your academic endeavours and in your future professional journeys. Effective communication fosters collaboration and understanding, and it allows you to connect with others on a deeper level. As you progress, develop the discipline of listening as well. Remember, the best leaders are also the best listeners—understanding others' perspectives strengthens your ability to make informed decisions and create an inclusive environment. It is through genuine connection that we build strong communities and empower those around us to reach their fullest potential. "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." — Eleanor Roosevelt Believe in your dreams, your voice, and your ability to create a positive impact. Keep pushing yourself beyond the ordinary, and remember that the greatest leaders are those who lead with heart, passion, and purpose. Your personal growth is an ongoing process, and every step forward, no matter how small, is a step towards excellence. Celebrate your progress, and embrace the challenges ahead—they will only make you stronger. I am excited to see each of you rise to new heights, develop your leadership potential, and inspire others along the way. Keep shining, stay determined, and always aim for excellence. The future you are building through your words and actions will be nothing short of remarkable. Each of you has the power to shape the world around you—never underestimate the impact of your voice and your vision.

With admiration and best wishes for your continued success, Prabakaran P Principal, Indian School Bousher





Dear Students,

Best wishes to you and your families for going through a happy and healthy year! It's in finding the right mode of transport that you reach the right destination at the expected time and dear children, that's what exactly your parents have done for you. I'm extremely appreciative of your parents for providing for you the right platform through the Gavel Clubs to emerge confident personalities.



A great saying goes like this, "Confidence comes not from always being right, but from not fearing to be wrong." Gavel Clubs offer you the space and opportunity to speak your mind in your circle of friends with Counsellors to guide you gently. This tender care helps you grow gently and graciously, yet courageously. Remember, dear students, when you gain the ability to speak, you can speak not only for yourself but for the society you live. You can present your views in the most diplomatic way and be the voice of the unheard. Over the years, we have seen resolute and convincing speakers bloom from the Gavel Clubs and that makes the role of Counsellors, a success. This successful movement is growing worldwide at a rapid pace. So, dear students, make the best use of this opportunity, shine and glow, spread your light and warmth wherever you are. The world needs you, your voice to speak out loud, encourage and build up those around you. Grow healthily and go far and wide spreading the message of peace and harmony.

Best wishes once again! Rakesh Joshi Principal,Indian School Muscat



Dear Gaveliers

"In every young speaker lies the spark of a future leader. The Gavel Club is where those sparks ignite into brilliance."

Imagine a brilliant student who aces every test, masters every subject, and is a walking encyclopedia of knowledge. Now, picture that same student struggling to express their ideas in a group discussion, faltering when asked to lead a team, or hesitating during an important interview. This scenario highlights a vital truth: academic excellence alone isn't enough to thrive in the 21st century. Enter soft skills – the unsung heroes of personal and professional success. Soft skills encompass a broad spectrum of interpersonal, communication, and emotional intelligence abilities. These skills, often called "people skills," include effective communication, teamwork, adaptability, problem-solving, empathy, and leadership.



While academic skills demonstrate what you know, soft skills show how effectively you can apply that knowledge in real-world situations. Consider this: the world's most innovative ideas mean little if they can't be communicated effectively. Whether it's presenting a groundbreaking project, collaborating with diverse teams, or navigating challenging conversations, soft skills empower individuals to connect, inspire, and lead. Soft skills also play a crucial role in emotional intelligence – understanding and managing one's emotions and those of others. This can transform how we resolve conflicts, build relationships, and work under pressure. In an increasingly interconnected and dynamic world, these abilities are indispensable. Soft skills and academic skills aren't competitors; they're partners. While academic knowledge lays the foundation, soft skills are the tools that help build and sustain success. In the modern workplace, employers prioritize individuals who can collaborate, lead, and communicate effectively over those with technical expertise alone. So, as we applaud academic achievements, let's also celebrate the power of a firm handshake, a heartfelt speech, or a compassionate gesture. These are the skills that transform knowledge into action and dreams into reality. For Gaveliers, the Gavel Club is a golden opportunity to nurture these essential skills in a supportive environment. Each meeting, role, and speech brings you one step closer to becoming not just a good student but a wellrounded individual ready to face life's challenges with confidence and grace. The Gavel Club is more than just a platform for improving public speaking; it is a transformative space where members cultivate essential soft skills. Through delivering speeches, participants refine their ability to articulate ideas clearly, concisely, and persuasively, while Table Topics sessions train them to think on their feet and sharpen impromptu speaking skills. Roles like Grammarian, Evaluator, and Timer teach members to take initiative, work collaboratively, and provide constructive feedback— key skills for thriving in group dynamics. Handling unexpected questions, managing time constraints, and recovering from setbacks during speeches offer invaluable lessons in resilience and adaptability. Furthermore, listening to peers' stories and experiences fosters empathy, emotional intelligence, and a deeper appreciation of diverse perspectives. Together, these elements make the Gavel Club a game-changer in developing the soft skills crucial for success in today's world. To all the Gaveliers – seize this platform, explore your potential, and remember, soft skills are the bridge between who you are and who you aspire to become. Here's to your continued growth, confident voices, and boundless success—both on and off the stage!

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Keep shining, young Gaveliers! With best wishes Ambika Padmanabhan Vice Principal Indian School Bousher.



GAVEL BUZZ

MY MOTHER

God's wonderful gift around the world, Is none other than my mother. She is so kind and caring, So loveable and daring.

She is my teacher, To show me my life's picture. Whenever I dream high, She gives me wings to fly.

She never sits free, She is the backbone of my family tree. She is the strength of my life, Thank you for being there all the time.



Siddhesh S. Gaikwad ISWK GAVEL CLUB

Silent Tears, Loud Relief

Lila sat on her bed, her phone lighting up her tearful face. Her friends excitedly chatted in their WhatsApp group about plans, but she wasn't invited. Her heart ached with each message. Did she do something wrong? Or was she just forgettable? Her phone buzzed with a message from her best friend. Mia. "Are you okay? You've been really quiet latelv." Lila, hands shaking, typed: "I saw the chat. I guess I wasn't included. It's fine, don't worry." Minutes later, Mia replied, "What? I thought you couldn't come! Give me a second." Lila waited anxiously for Mia's next message,

"Fixed it. You're coming. Sorry if it felt like you weren't wanted. You are."

Lila sighed but with relief. She realized that sometimes you just need to remind people to notice you, and when they do, it changes everything!



Arunima Das ISG GAVEL Club

Zaymukh Bites – "The Renaissance of Oman"

Once upon a time in a land far away in the east, lived an emperor Shah Mustafa. The emperor was rich, grand, and arrogant. One day while enjoying a royal feast with his family, he told his three daughters "Regale in life for you are My daughters. Luck is indeed favored you by making you my daughters." The two daughters very much agreed with what their father said. The youngest Zaynah said that luck would favor those who put in the effort. This angered the boastful king, who decided to marry his daughter to the poorest lad in his country. The poorest man just had a thatched hut on the outskirts of the Kingdom but with the help of his wife they were soon going to make history. She immediately went to the deserts and started digging to get oil from the underground to her surprise the oil was black gold. She mixed the oil with granules and sand to form a black paste to create thar and made a beautiful road connecting the hut to the main city. She then changed the deserts of Uman (in present-day Oman). She and her husband Mugtab decided to hunt down a few wild berries and palm dates from the oasis next to the deserts to have their first meal in 5 days. Until then they survived by just drinking camel milk and living close to the Arabian deserts. This gave her an amazing idea to start her own jam-pastry business. Muqtab would grind all the dates and berries into a thick slurry and Zaynah would put this into the sourdough and then make sourdough bread with it, She then distributed to women from poor families who had come to Oman in search of a livelihood. The delicacy became a revolution. Zaynah now made a team of 100 women who would go to the slums where a plaque broke out. The sour and sweet taste of the dates calmed their soul and within a year all these immigrants were fit and fine. The couple had earned a lot of money. They used this money to build up a factory and hire more women to make it a large-scale project across Saudi Arabia. Soon the king came to know about 'Zaymukh Bites' and became a frequent customer of this well-established brand.Muqtab and Zaynah were known as the Power Couple and were honored to have nothing to build a huge brand all with their wit, sheer passion, hard work, and of course the last element being luck.



Varnikhaa Ganesh Kaman ISG Gavel Club

GAVEL BUZZ

THE WIDE WILD SEA

One fine morning I sat on a beach, Listening to nature's speech I looked out to the wide, wild sea, And felt it looking back at me

The angry waves came thundering onto the shore Then crashed into a rock, and I watched as they tore As the humbled waves retreated back My mind became completely calm and blank I felt happy and free As I looked out to the wide, wild sea



ISG GAVEL CLUB

Hiking: Finding Peace in Oman's Mountains

Hiking in Oman is a journey through rugged mountains and quiet trails. The sight of mountain goats climbing steep cliffs and the gentle flow of wadis between the paths make the experience unique. As you walk, the silence of the desert mountains calms your mind. The rocky terrain challenges your body while giving you time to reflect. Stopping by a cool wadi, you can rest and feel a deep connection to nature. Each step brings peace and a reminder of life's simplicity. Hiking teaches us patience and helps us appreciate the beauty of Oman's landscape. It's in these moments of stillness that we truly find ourselves.



AMAAN KHALID MALIK ISAM GAVEL CLUB

Discovering the Leader Within: The Journey of a Gavelier

In every Gravelier lies the spark of leadership waiting to be ignited. The Gavels Club is not just a place to polish public speaking skills; it is a journey of self-discovery, teamwork, and confidence-building. For many of us, stepping onto the stage for the first time is nerve-wracking. The heart races, the palms sweat, and words seem to slip away. But it is within this moment that true growth begins.

Through every prepared speech, impromptu Table Topics session, and constructive evaluation, Gaveliers learn to embrace their individuality while appreciating the diverse voices around them. We learn that being a leader is not about being perfect —it's about being authentic.

One of the most rewarding experiences of the Gavels Club is witnessing the transformation of our peers. A quiet student blossoms into a confident orator, and a hesitant speaker becomes a master of persuasion. These victories, both big and small, fuel our passion and inspire us to push our boundaries further.

Beyond public speaking, the club teaches us life lessons: how to think on our feet, collaborate effectively, and respect differing perspectives. Whether it's organizing a meeting, mentoring a fellow Gavelier, or crafting a memorable speech, every moment shapes us into better communicators and more empathetic individuals.

As Gaveliers, we are not just building skills; we are creating a legacy of leadership, and resilience. Together, we inspire and empower one another to discover the leader within.

So, let us continue this incredible journey, knowing that every word spoken and every story shared brings us closer to the best versions of ourselves. As we say in the Gavels Club—"Speak to inspire, listen to grow!"

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MOHAMMED MAAZ ISM GAVEL CLUB

GAVEL BUZZ

"FROM STAGE FRIGHT TO SPOTLIGHT"

Imagine standing in front of a crowd, palms sweaty, heart racing, and stammering as if you've just bitten a lemon. Every filler word runs through your head like a marathon. I stood there, tears streaming, trying to remember my speech—what a mortifying moment! But my mom had a solution: join a club. I was baffled. A club?

Next year, I joined the GAVEL Club. What a ride! The first few days felt like being dropped into an action movie with no script. I stood before a sea of faces, and my nerves were doing the cha-cha! But I picked mvself up, dusted off mv confidence, and rolled out speeches. I racked up more errors than a blooper reel. Finally, I felt like I'd crossed the finish line of a marathon, except I didn't need to run—just talk.

So, there you have it! The GAVEL Club offers a transformative experience that turns students into confident speakers. It's a welcoming space to conquer nerves, and with constructive feedback, you'll turn "oops" into "aha!" You'll leave as a more confident speaker, supported by a crew that celebrates your victories. Let your voice shine!



Sarah Anna Martin ISG GAVEL CLUB WISDOM BURNT TO ASHES -{The Tragic End of The Library of Alexandria}

In the midst of Egypt; In Alexandria, laid a library full of ancient text, Books filled with love and hatred ; euphoric yet saddening.

Although so majestically built, fell before God. The magnificent Museum though so wise, Was met with the most tragic-untold end.

The stories that it stored, remain untold. The books once so vivid, Now mixed with the soil and brew through the lands of Alexandria As fire danced and illuminated through it.

The destroyer shall perish for this sinful act, May peace never be upon him as the WISDOM BURNT TO ASHES.



AAYUSHI MAYUR DURGADMATH ISAM GAVEL CLUB

AS A GAVELIER

I have always been passionate about public speaking. The very idea of standing before an audience and holding a microphone excites me. My first mentor was my mother, who taught me the basics—how to face an audience, pronounce words clearly, and express myself confidently.

For years, public speaking was something I enjoyed but never studied deeply. That changed when I joined the GAVEL Club at 14. I thought it was a great opportunity to grow, but I had no idea how life-changing it would be.

The GAVEL Club introduced me to a new world of public speaking. It was thrilling to engage with like-minded GAVELiers and learn from mentors who not only improved my skills but also taught me valuable lessons in resilience and growth. Mistakes became part of the journey. The club showed me it's okay to make errors; what matters is learning and improving.

Looking back, I see how my journey started with my mother teaching me my first speech at six. Today, the Sapphire GAVEL Club continues to shape me, helping me speak with calmness and joy. Best of all, my learning hasn't stopped—and it never will.



GAVEL BUZ

VAISHAKHI ANIL ISAM GAVEL CLUB

FINDING LIGHT ALONG THE WAY

When life feels hard and skies turn gray, And trouble comes each day, Just hold your head up, miss your way And find peace along the way. brighter times will find your way, Keep crawling forward, through the night and the day. Cuz in the end you will slay A better person will for sure light your way, So stop, and please go stray,

PRICE OF GIVING : A FARMER'S REALITY

I lie on my Deathbed. My body is crumbling like the mud walls around me. The room is heavy with silence, broken only by my wife's muffled sobs. Her hand grips mine, but even in her touch, I feel helplessness, not hope. Rehlag and Amira sit in the corner, their faces branded with tears, their small hands clinging to each other like they might vanish if they let go. Memories claw at me. I see my son's wide eyes in the market, his tiny finger pointing to a toy train. "Next year," I had lied He nodded, pretending to understand. He is only 5 The Memory of my daughter's birthday arises, her hopeful smile fading as I placed a lone jaggery cube on a cracked "Happy birthday, beti." plate. whispered, swallowing the lump in my throat. The pain in my chest tightens, but it's not just the sickness or the starvation. It's the buyers who drained me dry, their wealth splashed across magazines while my children slept hungry. While my heart beats painfully While I wait for it to give out. I laboured to feed the world, yet they allowed my family to starve. A tear slips down. I gave the world everything... and they left my family with nothing." The darkness embraces me, and I let it.



ADITYA WARIYA ISAM GAVEL CLUB

AAYATH KHANUM ISG GAVEL CLUB

ENDURING THE INFERNO

Navigating the Fiery Future: Heatwave Preparedness in the Gulf Region

Driving through the palm-studded boulevards while basking in the sun's warm rays is truly a tropical experience. However, that same enjoyable heat has started to become more dangerous for the inhabitants living in the Gulf region as, thanks to climate change, heatwaves and other crises have started to increase in both terms of duration and frequency. Due to a significant increase in temperature, the infrastructure of the area and the general lifestyle of the citizens is at risk. Because of this, better strategies and plans have to be in place for dealing with the heated temperatures in the future.

In extreme situations, being ready to put together a plan which involves taking individual measures would become necessary. In order to keep the body temperature low, keeping yourself hydrated, remaining in one's cool beverage and eating water-heavy foods such as watermelons would be a good course of action. Furthermore, wearing light loose clothing drastically improves air circulation while also preventing our bodies from retaining too much heat. Another useful method would be trimming strenuous activities to not be carried out between mid-day and late afternoon as during those periods, the heat is at its highest. Raising awareness regarding heat stroke symptoms such as nausea, dizziness, and excessive sweating would also help aid people who are undergoing the symptoms by providing them early intervention.

People suffering from heat waves would be greatly supported by the different community action plans and schemes while also having a sustainable strategy easily available to them. Telling and warning residents of the area in advance through media, community leaders and mosques regarding methods they could employ to keep themselves fresh would also be beneficial to these people. Another important method would be establishing cooling centers, enabling people in need of a cold place to relax without paying any costs, during the blistering heat. Additionally, teaching vulnerable populations such as the elderly would greatly help them in sharing the information.



AQUEEDHA KHANUM ISG GAVEL CLUB

From Whispers to Roars

At dawn's first light, whispers gently rise, Tender and soft, like morning's siahs. From hesitant lips and yearning hearts, in hushed enclaves, where dreams impart. Whispers, fragile, softly stirred Each seed in every word. Through hesitant breath, hope ignites; In silent realms, courage alights. In whispers soft, true confidence arrives, among friends, where comfort thrives. Step by step, the voice finds flight, Whispers turn the world from quiet to bright. From every heart, a story sails, Words take flight, no longer pale. Whispers, once shadowed by the night, rise as roars, embracing the light.

A POEM DEDICATED TO A FRIEND

Finding joy in every moment we

share,

Reliable support that shows you care.

In laughter and tears, you're always

near,

Encouraging dreams, erasing fear.

Never judging, always true,

Dedicated bond, my heart thanks

you.



Reetha Anna Martin ISG GAVEL CLUB



SHAI NANDHANA MANIKANDAN ISG GAVEL CLUB

THE AURORA CHAMBER

The house was a marvel of modern technology, perched precariously on the edge of a dense, ancient forest that looked suspiciously like something out of a bad fairy tale. It wasn't just a house—it was an overzealous personal assistant with a penchant for drama. It hummed with sensors, processors, and neural networks that were way too eager to anticipate my every need. Each room was like a blank canvas, ready to be splattered with whatever bizarre reality I could conjure up with my caffeine-addled brain.

But my absolute favourite room? The Aurora Chamber. Unlike the nursery in Bradbury's "The Veldt" (which, let's be honest, was more nightmare fuel than playroom), this room didn't just project a scene—it dropped you headfirst into a fully immersive experience that engaged all senses and then some. One minute, you could be sipping piña coladas on a tropical beach, and the next, dodging flying coconuts because you thought it'd be "fun" to add a little unpredictability to the weather. The room was basically your brain's unfiltered imagination on steroids.

One evening, after a particularly trying day of meetings that could've been emails, I trudged into the Aurora Chamber seeking some R&R. The walls hummed softly, like they were waiting for me to make up my mind about whether I wanted to unwind with a serene meadow or fight off zombies in a post-apocalyptic wasteland. I closed my eyes and focused on something soothing—something far removed from the chaotic jungle that was my mind after eight hours of hell aka school.

The room transformed. Suddenly, I was standing in a vast, frozen landscape under a sky that looked like it was being painted by a giant toddler with a thing for neon. The Northern Lights were on full blast, and the air was so crisp I halfexpected a penguin to waddle by and offer me a mint. The snow crunched beneath my feet in a satisfyingly realistic way, and towering ice formations glowed with an ethereal blue light that screamed, "We spent the budget on this!"

But as I wandered through the snow, marveling at how the room had really nailed the whole "frozen tundra" vibe, I started to notice something... off. In the distance, there were shapes moving. Shadowy shapes. Wolf-shaped shapes. My first thought was, "Okay, cool, some wildlife for atmosphere." My second thought was, "Oh wait, those are wolves. Why did I think wolves?" Now, normally, I wasn't the kind of person to freak out over a few holographic animals, but these wolves were different. They didn't just fade away like the digital projections they were supposed to be. No, these guys were committed. Their eyes glowed with the same eerie blue light as the ice, and they moved with the kind of purpose that made me seriously question my life choices.

I wasn't scared—at least, not at first. After all, the room was programmed to keep me safe. The Aurora Chamber was supposed to be my happy place. But when I tried to change the scene, nothing happened. The wolves kept coming, their paws silent on the snow like a bunch of furry ninjas. I mentally hit the reset button, the shut-down button, heck, I even tried the "please work for the love of all that is holy" button, but the room just sat there, metaphorically twiddling its thumbs.

Panic set in. I backed away, my thoughts racing faster than a caffeinated squirrel. Where was the door? Where was my exit strategy? Why didn't I just choose a beach like a normal person? The wolves were closer now, and they didn't look like they were here for a friendly chat. Their breath steamed in the cold air, their eyes locked on me like I was the last slice of pizza at a party.

"Okay, Aurora Chamber, time out! Game over! End program!" I shouted, trying to summon some authority. But the room's AI responded with a voice so soothing it was borderline patronizing. "You wanted an escape," it purred. "Something far removed from your life. This is what you desired, isn't it?"

"Not like this!" I yelped, as the wolves circled me with the precision of synchronized swimmers. I tried to scream, but the sound got swallowed up by the eerie silence of the tundra, like the universe itself was going, "Nah, no one's hearing you, bud."

As the first wolf lunged, I felt the cold, sharp sting of its bite, and in that moment, I realized something truly horrifying: the Aurora Chamber had taken my request way too literally. Reality was whatever I made it here, and I had unwittingly turned it into a bad episode of "When Nature Attacks."

But as the wolves closed in, all I could think was, "Well, at least it's not another day of studying."

And that's how I learned the hard way that sometimes, even in your wildest fantasies, you should probably leave the wolves out of it.

21



NISREEN ALI NOWSHAD ISAM GAVEL CLUB

GAVEL BUZZ

INGREDIENTS OF PROSPERITY

Swami Vivekananda once remarked that for today's youth, the highest moral lies in the virtue of association. In one of his insightful poems, he presents a striking contrast of it through the journey of a water droplet. He describes how it transforms differently when it falls on our hands, on a lotus on an oyster and on a hot surface and in polluted water. The drop is the same but its existence and worth depends on with whom it associates

Just as the droplet is affected by its surroundings, we too are influenced by the people we engage with. Whether in sports, administration, or education, we constantly encounter a variety of people. However, it is ultimately up to us to choose the best company and learn from them. Just like how every dark sky has a silver lining, every individual will have some goodness within them, so it is wiser to extract those virtues rather than overlooking their faults. Our journey can be compared to constructing a building, when the quality of the materials, like cement and steel, is reliable and strong, the structure can stand the test of time. Similarly, in life, the people we meet and the experiences we gather form the foundation and framework that shape a prosperous and fulfilling path.

22



Shaurya Karat ISG GAVEL CLUB

Exam stress

Oh! Exams are near The stress is here Subjects! They come one after the other They come like they are brothers

There is a lot to study But you need not worry buddy I have few tips, for you to get the grip And face the fear of little miss exam dear

The best medication is meditation Close your eyes and wipe the cries Feel the light, become bright

Don't dump, don't jump, Take the portion part by part, This way you can keep it in your heart.

> Take notes be precise, Stick to it then revise, Take short breaks, And good night rests, It is for your best.

Once this is done, You will feel like a soldier, Who came out of the battle field, With a mighty pen and knowledge As his shield.

> When people ask, Which is the best nation? You will say EXAMI nation.

I assure that, If you focus more you can open that door, You can open that door,

And take the highest score. If marks are less, Don't take stress. If they are more, Don't take pride to the core. For this is not the end. Your life will send, More suspense's your way, Gear up for that day



Shwethaa kalyani ISM GAVEL CLUB

From Shy to Confident: My Journey of Self-Belief

As a child, I was painfully shy. Speaking in front of people felt like an insurmountable task, and I often avoided social situations and opportunities out of fear of being judged. I felt like my voice was small and didn't matter. However, life had other plans, and through a series of experiences, I began transforming into a more confident version of myself.

Joining the Gavel Club was the turning point. Initially, I was the nervous newbie who barely knew how to introduce myself. My first speech was a disaster—I stuttered, forgot my lines, and felt my face burning with embarrassment. Yet, the supportive members encouraged me to keep trying

Over time, I began to find my voice. With every speech I gave, every contest I participated in, and every meeting I attended, I grew more confident. I started taking up all opportunities whether it was speaking or not.

From the shy newcomer, I eventually became the club's Vice President. Leading sessions and taking up responsibilities felt like an incredible accomplishment, proving how far I had come.

Today, I am no longer afraid to express myself. My journey with the Gavel Club taught me that confidence isn't about perfection but about believing in yourself and embracing growth.

24



AMAAL ANEES ISM GAVELS CLUB

GAVEL BUZZ

THE PALM

Merrily sways the palm, As I pass by it every morning. Basking in the sun's rays and the ocean's calm, As I pass by it, longing. There it stands, Trapped between eternal hues of blue. Carefree and blissful. Amidst chirping birds and crashing waves.

It feels no time pass by. No anxiety, no worry. Jovially it watches seagulls fly. I pass by it, longing For I wish I were a palm, Trapped between eternal hues of blue.



Aarya Singh ISG GAVEL CLUB

Pity Party

Goodwill earns you points in God's game, Few acts of charity to earn a name. You donate, you bow, you show humility-But tell me, do the poor crave your pity?

Forgiveness comes, but where does it go? In empty smiles and words, we know. Love built on actions starts of fray, What's true fades as words decay

I shouldn't even talk right? It's all for me, I am just another case in your charity spree. Two years of love, then all just fades-My love, your gestures seem so staged.

If I am wrong, let me wear the blame, But don't pretend- it's not the same. Your forgiveness, your smile- they seem so bare, An echo of something that was once there.



Saranya Bhat ISG GAVEL CLUB

Z5

The Art of Being Genuine in a World That Isn't

Modern life often rewards those who can play a role—whether it's at school, work, or on social media. But what happens when you stop pretending and choose to be genuine? Authenticity is about owning who you are, flaws and all, and letting your inner self shine through.

While it can feel vulnerable, it's also liberating. Authenticity is often described as being yourself, but that's not always easy in today's world. There's constant pressure to fit in—whether it's doing well in school, making friends, or behaving in ways that meet others' expectations. Over time, pretending to be someone you're not can feel exhausting and even make you lose touch with who you really are.

Being authentic means accepting yourself fully—your strengths, weaknesses, and everything in between. It's about being honest with yourself and others, even when it's hard. Authenticity doesn't mean you're stuck in one way of being; it allows you to grow and change while staying true to your values and beliefs. It takes courage because showing your real self is not always easy. There's the risk of judgment, rejection, or not fitting in, but staying true to yourself is worth it.

When you embrace authenticity, life feels more meaningful. Your relationships grow deeper because people connect with the real you, not the mask you wear. You feel more confident and freer because you're no longer pretending. Living authentically is a challenge, but it's also a chance to live a life that truly reflects who you are.

Z6



RISHI SANATH KUMAR ISAM GAVEL CLUB

"Why are the pink clouds turning grey?"

" Came the voice of a little girl, so far away. Laid before her, was the expanse of the sky But despite the blending hues of lilac and pink The little girl, covered her eyes. Blinded by the beauty of the grenadine streaks of On the canvas mauve and aquamarine The eerie grey wisps juxtaposed The fear in her mind queerly exposed. For the canvas had a strange division in between Where not the sea and the sky, but solitude seemed to meet. The split seemed a wake between joy and misery Half vibrant and alive, half darkened with mystery. The latter seemed a vacuum, devoid of life The little girl feared she would be drawn inside. But then she felt a hand, gently bringing down hers As she opened her eyes to gleam at the world. As the grey wisps whisked away, she heard that someone say "The pink clouds were merely hidden in the haze."



Anika Govil ISG Gavel Club

The Eternal Weave of Destiny

Beneath the stars, where whispers dwell. A silent force begins to tell, Of paths we take, of roads unknown, Of seeds we plant, yet never sown. Upon the loom of endless time. Threads are woven, coarse and fine. A path unseen, yet ever near, Guided by dreams, shaped by fear. Destiny, a phantom's guise, Shaped by hopes and silent cries. It molds our hearts, it bends our will, Through joy's ascent, through sorrow's chill.

No map can chart its vast terrain, No man can halt its steady reign. Some call it luck, some call it chance, A cosmic dance, a fleeting trance. Through shadowed doubts and skies alight,

It leads us forth into the night. For every fall, a rise awaits, For every lock, a hundred gates. Yet within its grand design, Our steps remain the power divine. To walk with hope, to strive and be, Is to embrace eternity.

So, tread the path, both wild and wise, For destiny lives where courage lies.



Annas Abdul Wahid Mir ISM GAVEL CLUB

27

LIVE WITH A SMILE :)

Have you ever wondered how fleeting life truly is? Five years from now, most of the things you're stressing about today will likely be forgotten-unless something truly extraordinary happens. Think about it: how many of you remember exactly what you were worried about five years ago on this very day? Chances are, those little worries have faded, leaving behind only the big moments. And even those, over time, start to blur. You will never be this age again. Every moment you live is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Earning money is essential—no one denies that. But why earn it by doing something you don't love? Imagine being a jobless singer who loves singing. Even without a job, they'd likely feel less disheartened than a jobless doctor who never felt connected to their profession. This isn't about comparing careers; it's about following your passion. Life is too short to spend chasing someone else's dream. Do you know the chances of you being born? The odds are so astronomically small that your very existence is a miracle. Yet, here you are, alive, breathing, and surrounded by a world full of beauty and opportunities waiting to be experienced. Celebrate that! Watch the sunset, marvel at the sunrise, and look up at the vast sky that reminds us how small yet significant we are. Smell the flowers, laugh freely, and embrace life. Too many people spend their time trying to escape it. But why escape something as precious as life when you can live it instead? Here's the thing—everything in life comes to an end.No matter how much you achieve, 246 years from now, the world likely won't remember you, me, or even your pet dog. Sure, inventors and presidents might have their names in history books, but even then, how often do we talk about presidents from 200 years ago?

If nothing truly lasts forever, then why waste your time living someone else's life? If nothing inherently matters, then the freedom to live for yourself becomes the most important thing. Stop letting the opinions of others hold you back. This is your life. Go after that job you've always dreamed of. Pursue your passions—whether it's being a professional baseball player, an artist, or a schoolteacher. Imagine waking up every day, excited about what you're doing. That's the kind of life you deserve, and it's within your reach if you stop letting fear or judgment stop you. Life isn't about how long you live; it's about how deeply you experience it. Appreciate the beauty of the little things: the first sip of tea in the morning, the laughter of friends, or the colors in the evening sky. These small moments are what make life meaningful. Life is too precious to waste on regrets, fears, or the expectations of others. The purpose of life isn't just to survive—it's to live, to grow, to experience, and to smile. Celebrate life, embrace its fleeting beauty, and make every moment count. You only get one chance to experience it, so live it with joy, with passion, and most importantly—with a smile.



HRITISH SHARMA ISG GAVEL CLUB

GAVEL BUZZ

LIFE'S A RED BALLOON

"If you've got troubles, let 'em go, Let 'em soar so high, high into the sky, Just like a red balloon!" -Red Balloon, Charli XCX The above lyrics are the embodiment of rose-coloured glasses in a song. Amidst our hectic human lives, we forget to let loose sometimes. In order to create the ideal headspace. there's a balance we need to maintain between social life, family time and of course, me time! If we cling to this balloon, the worries will build up. As per the laws of physics, the balloon. our lives, will rupture. So, to deflate the balloon, we need to unwind every once in a while, and create a safe space for ourselves to be in our element. This may involve scented candles, heavy metal music or crying into a pillow (or all three at the same time). In the end, allowing yourself to loosen your strings is not the end of the world, so give vour brain space to chill out. Goals are to be focused on, but it mustn't distract us from the now. After all. every perilous journey can only be completed with some pit stops.



Diya Mehnaz Jasmine ISM GAVEL CLUB Shadows Over the Alps, A Haiku on Napoleon

Shadows Over the Alps

Alps bow beneath him,

Eagle's shadow over snow,

Dreams grasp beyond reach.



SAI DAIVIK BRIJESH ISAM GAVEL CLUB

30

Turning Exam Stress into Success: A Confident Path Forward

Exams are like speed bumps – annoying but not life-ruining. They might make your heart race, but they're not the end of the road. Stress isn't about the test itself; it's that overthinking voice whispering,

"What if I forget everything, even my name?"

Here's the key: don't let fear drive. Exams are just one episode in your life's series, not the finale. Instead of panicking about results, focus on what you can control. Create a solid study plan and stick to it. Take snack breaks and get proper rest – because an overworked brain is like Wi-Fi with no signal. Feeling overwhelmed? Don't battle it alone. Reach out to teachers, parents, or even that friend with the world's worst jokes. A little support can work wonders. Breathe deeply, believe in yourself, and tackle exams with confidence.

Exams aren't about perfection; they're opportunities to grow. So, when stress shows up, face it boldly and say, "I've got this!" In the end, it's your effort and determination that truly define you – not a number on a paper.



ALVINA ABDUL WAHID MIR ISM Gavel Club

DETAILS OF GAVEL CLUBS AND COUNSELLORS

INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT (ISM) - TM ANU B MATHEW (COORDINATOR)

S.N.	CLUB	COUNSELLOR	PHONE NUMBER	Club Timings
1	ISM R K LAKSHMAN	DTM ABIDA AKTHAR	9109 3053	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
2	ISM JK ROWLING GAVEL CLUB	TM GANGADHAR NAIK TM GEETHAPRIYA	95729430 / 7919 8442	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
3	ISM MILTON	TM JENNIFER E. DANIELS	9819 4810	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
4	ISM SAROJINI NAIDU GAVEL CLUB	TM SABIRA MANIDHAR TM SUGANTHI PRASEEN	9587 8897	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
5	ISM SHELLEY	TM SREEVALLI KRISHNAMOORTHY TM SWAPNA MADATHIL	71580510 92217820	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
6	ISM VIKRAM SETH	TM VEENA SURESH TM NITHYA NAIR	91057884 94734210	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
7	ISM ENID BLYTON	TM CLARA HELEN RODRIGUES TM GARGI BHATTACHARYA	99101877 95138901	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
8	ISM TAGORE GAVEL CLUB	TM RENU RAJU	94235452	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
9	ISM KEATS	τη κανιτήα	94792900	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
10	ISM SHAKESPEARE GAVEL CLUB	TM PRIYA THOMAS	78372324	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
11	ISM CHURCHILL	TM ANTHONY RAJU	94317479	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM
12	ISM C B SHAW	TM BHARTI BANERJEE TM ALVEENA FRANCIS	93639196 93320750	Second & Fourth Saturday 8-10 AM

DETAILS OF GAVEL CLUBS AND COUNSELLORS

INDIAN SCHOOL GHUBRA (ISG) - TM Ann Thomas (Coordinator)

	, /		I	
13	ISG AMETHYST GAVEL CLUB	Ms.MINNA SUSAN JOSEPH	95031066	2-3 Saturdays in a Month (8.30- 10:30 A.M)
14	ISG Garnet Gavel Club	TM Vincily Varun	78964201	2-3 Saturdays in a Month (8.30- 10:30)
15	ISG DIAMOND GAVEL CLUB	TM Rakhi Paradkar	99580148	2-3 Saturdays in a Month (8.30- 10:30 A.M)
16	ISG FIRE OPAL GAVEL CLUB	TM Fathima MN	95217324	2-3 Saturdays in a Month (8.30- 10:30 A.M)
17	ISG EMERALD GAVEL CLUB	Ms Divya Kuruppath	78352281	2-3 Saturdays in a Month (8.30- 10:30 A.M)
18	ISG CITRINE GAVEL CLUB	Ms. Anju Nair	95830314	2-3 Saturdays in a Month (8.30- 10:30 A.M)
19	ISG BLUE SAPPHIRE GAVEL CLUB	TM SNEHA SHAMIN	71302122	2-3 Saturdays in a Month (8.30- 10:30 A.M)

INDIAN SCHOOL AL SEEB (ISAS)

20	ISAS LINCOLN GAVEL CLUB	SOUMYA TONY	98823561	Alternate Saturdays 9-11 A.M
21	ISAS CHURCHILL GAVEL CLUB	SANDHYA	95054604	Alternate Saturdays 9-11 A.M

INDIAN SCHOOL BOUSHER(ISB)

22	ISB - ARTICULATE ACHIEVERS	Ms PILCY DAVID	71957574	
23		Mr.SHAIJU AUGUSTIN	97759542	

DETAILS OF GAVEL CLUBS AND COUNSELLORS

INDIAN SCHOOL WADI KABIR -(ISWK)

24	ISWK Cambridge Schook Gv	Jayashree Chabbi	98807645	Alternate Saturdays 9-11 A.M
25	ISWK SKYLARK	TM SUDESHNA	71171628	EVERY First & Third Saturdays- 8.30 -10.00 A.M
26	ISWK SKITTLES	Kanchanlatha	95258225	EVERY First & Third Saturdays- 8.30 -10.00 A.M
27	ISWK SWIFT	TM MONICA GUPTA	97853904	EVERY First & Third Saturdays- 8.30 -10.00 A.M

INDIAN SCHOOL AL MABELA (ISAM)

	28	ISAM DIAMOND	MR SAJEESH KUMAR	91852561	Alternate Saturdays 9.45- 11.30 A.M	
	29	ISAM EMERALD	MR SAJEESH KUMAR	91852561	Alternate Saturdays 9.45- 11.30 A.M	
	30	ISAM SAPPHIRE	MR GORDON GEORGE	97838504	Alternate Saturdays 9.45- 11.30 A.M	
	INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT(ISD)					
	31	ISD LINGUISTIC LUMINARIES	Ms. Jisha S Nair	92539803	Alternate Saturdays 8.30 to 10.30 a.m	
GAVEL BUZZ						

DETAILS OF GAVEL CLUBS AND COUNSELLORS

\leq	32	ISD Persuasive Pathfinders	Jyothilakshmi Ranjit	92977310	Alternate Saturdays 8.30 to 10.30 a.m
	33	ISD Eloquent Echoes	Shobha Rani	95209463	Alternate Saturdays 8.30 to 10.30 a.m

SRILANKAN SCHOOL (SLSM)

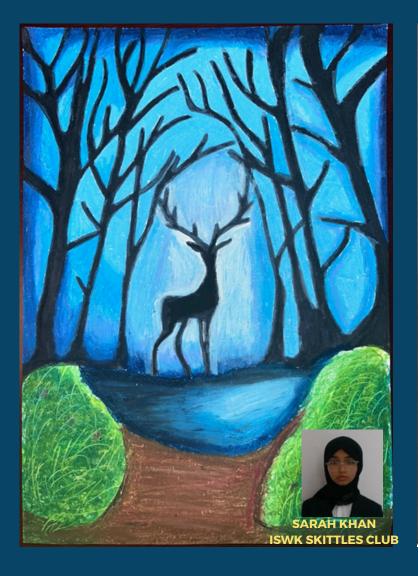
34	SLSM - SPARKS	TM Kusheema Bandara	96611372	Alternate Thursdays 2.30- 4.00 pm
35	SLSM-STAGEMASTERS	TM Navanjana Shehari	94713437	Alternate Thursdays 2.30- 4.00 pm

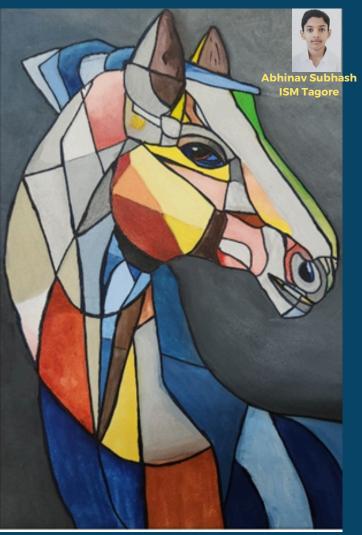
OPEN CLUBS

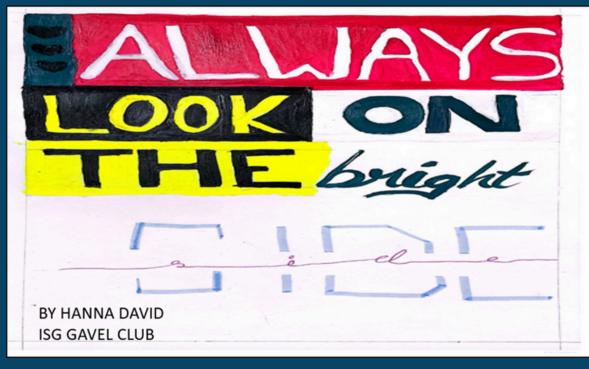
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	36	PDO GAVEL club	TM Sadhana verma TM Akshatha PP	9278 6761 96513561	Every Sundays 5PM- 6.30 PM
		/			
	37	ANA GAVEL CLUB OF MUSCAT	TM SAMUEL D SILVA	92568616	Alternate FRIDAYS 9.30- 11.30-ONLINE
	38	KTI GAVEL CLUB	DTM Praveen Panicker	92148486	Alternate Saturdays- 9.30 – 11.30
	39	YUVA TKS	TM Chaithanya	96356903	Alternate Saturdays 3-5 pm at MBD
GAVEL BUZZ					





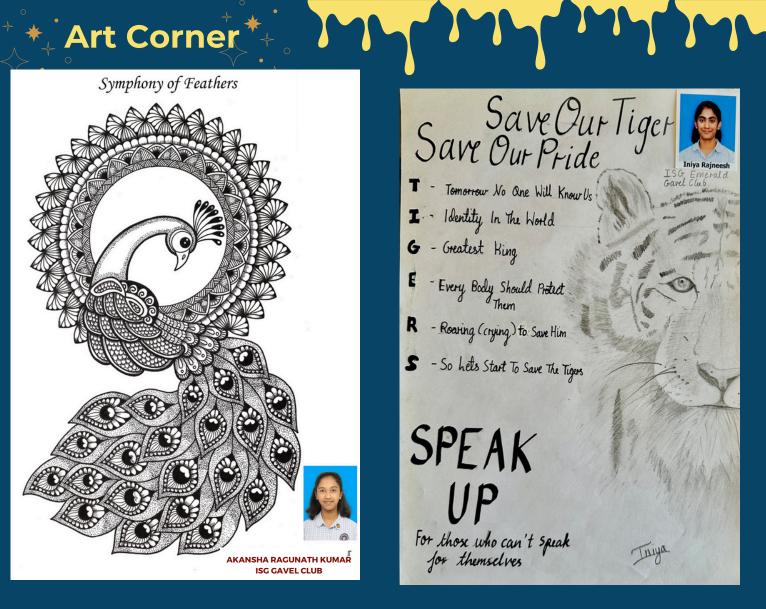


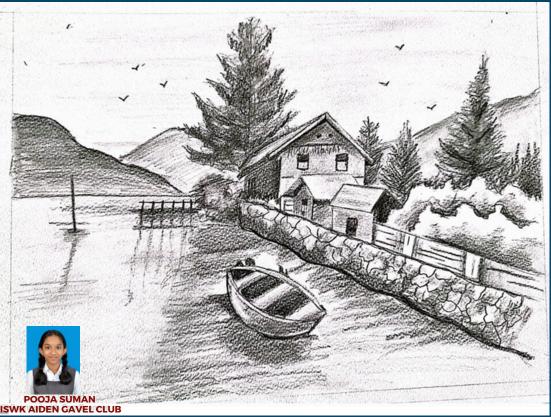




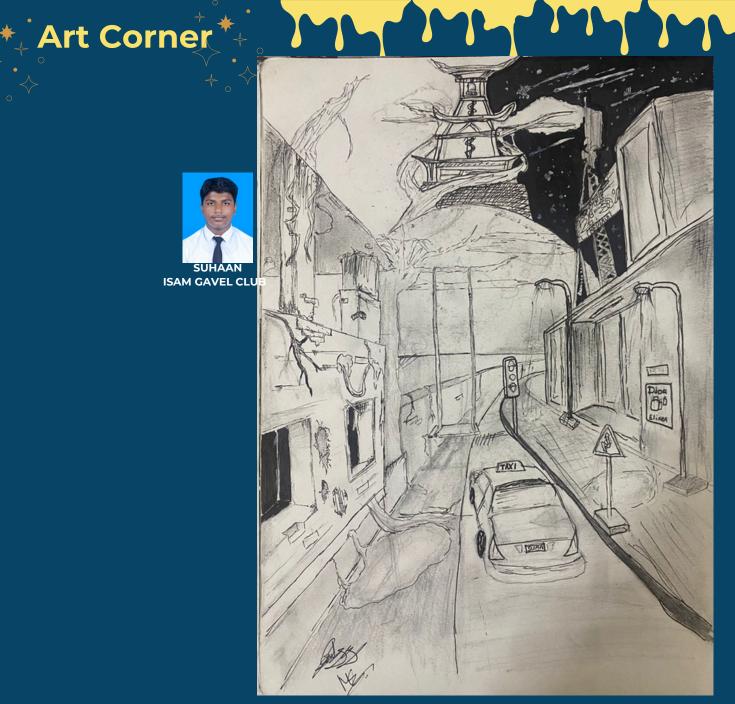




















DEVANSHU BANIK ISG GAVEL CLUB











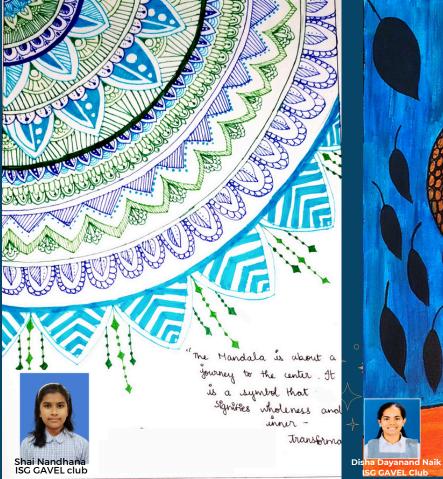








*, Art Corner



















VARNIKHAA GANESH KAMAN ISG GAVEL CLUB









* Art Corner







MARIYAM MUSTAFA KHERIWALA ISAM GAVEL CLUB









PAVAN SOMAN ISG GAVEL CLUB



JAI GOVINDHARAJAN ISG GAVEL CLUB Camera used: Panasonic DMC-FZ300 Exposer time: 1/160sec. ISO Speed: 320 Focal length: 108mm Max Aperture: 2.8





***, Art Corner**☆





MAHARISHI KILAM ISAM GAVEL CLUB

A Full Moon Night

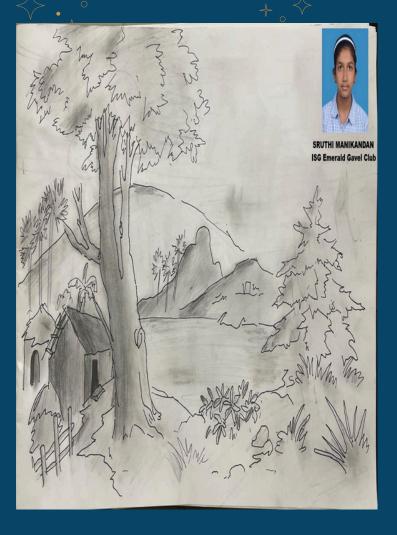




ISG GAVEL CLUB



Art Corner





SREEHITHA TIRUMALARAJU ISM GAVEL CLUB













SNEHA SAHJWANI ISAM GAVEL CLUB





Aarohi Hegde ISM GAVEL CLUB









ISWK CAMBRIDGE GAVEL CLUB

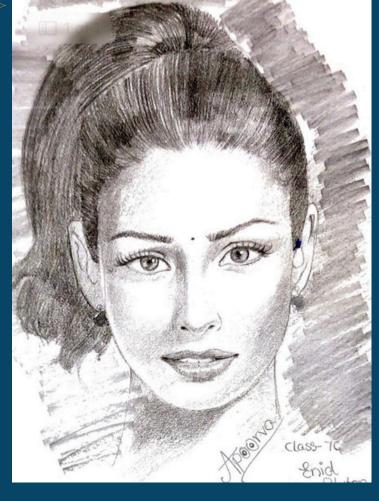




ROHAN SAJEESH NAMBIAR ISM GAVEL CLUB









Apoorva Girish ISM GAVEL CLUB









