



SUNSHINE

NEWSLETTER 2020

Message from the Principal

"Vision is the art of seeing the invisible."

We are grateful to be able to share our first Annual Newsletter with you, and hope that you would like to read these updates. Our talented and dedicated teachers, through their exceptional pedagogical practices and technological mastery were instrumental in our successful and smooth transition to distance learning during the year. I thank them for adopting a personalized approach in their online teaching to mitigate the disadvantages of remote learning. I am proud of our students for being so amazingly resilient despite how tough the past year and half has been. The need for our students to be successful in their lives is more urgent than those more fortunate children who are born in families which are more financially prosperous. At our school, we work hard to give them courage and determination to pursue their dreams and we were proud to see an expression of that courage and determination in their willingness to fight and struggle. I also wish to extend our sincerest thanks to our parent body for their patience, enthusiasm, and support during these difficult times. And for being so flexible in their schedules to make it possible for the school to run both online and on-campus classes successfully. Since the government switched us from on-campus to online education quite a few times, I appreciate the support that we received from our students' parents.

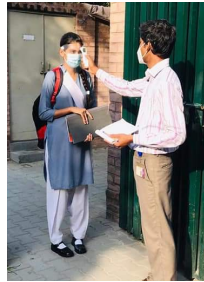
We thank Almighty God for his countless blessings which have and will enable us during these difficult times to continue with our mission of educating our students, regardless of what the future holds.

With warm regards,
Furry George

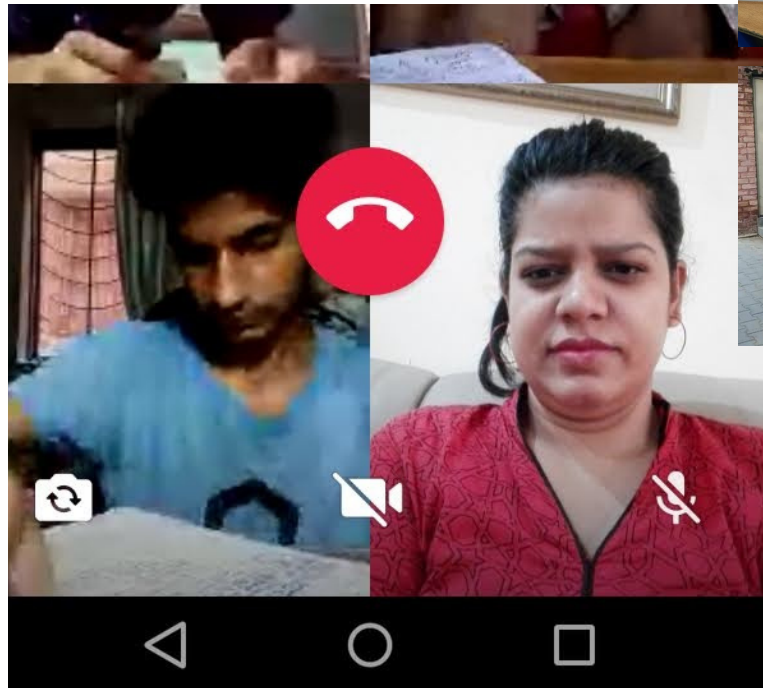


Light of Hope School turned to web-based applications and technologies for teaching in the early days of the pandemic. In fact, it was rather a blended teaching since we also used other mediums such as YouTube videos simulations, a drop-box system for assignments, and in-person feedback by teachers on the assignment pick-up days for struggling students. We started this method of teaching in the first week of April last year and we continued with online WhatsApp classes on daily basis during the most part of summer vacation period. We wanted our students to get very comfortable with this alternative learning process, since everyone was expecting the pandemic restrictions to continue for quite some time in the future. It was rewarding since our students picked up well with this type of learning. By September 2020, when the government allowed the schools to reopen, our staff and students had already got trained with online teaching, and since we had emphasized that we might need to switch back to online teaching, all of them were ready for this transition on any given day.

ON CAMPUS CLASSES

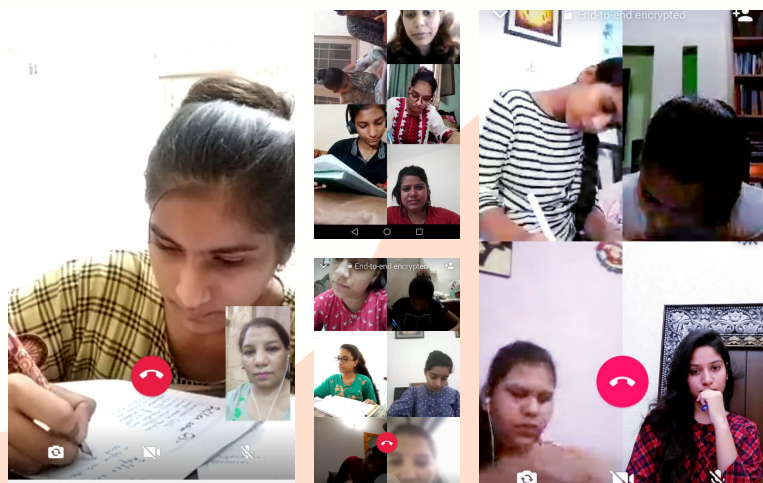


ONLINE CLASSES



We also adopted a better approach during the on-campus education time period than what most other schools did. Most schools split their classes in halves and then called them to school on alternate days for a full day's learning. We split our classes in halves but we called them every day for a half day's learning (we had an hour's break during the two sessions for our workers to get everything sanitized for the second session). We felt that for the students of this age group it would help us keep them in a continuous learning mood if we did not give them an off day every alternate day.

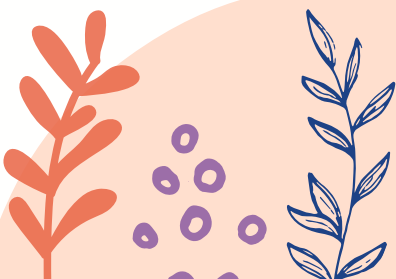
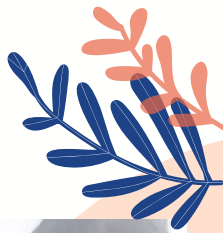
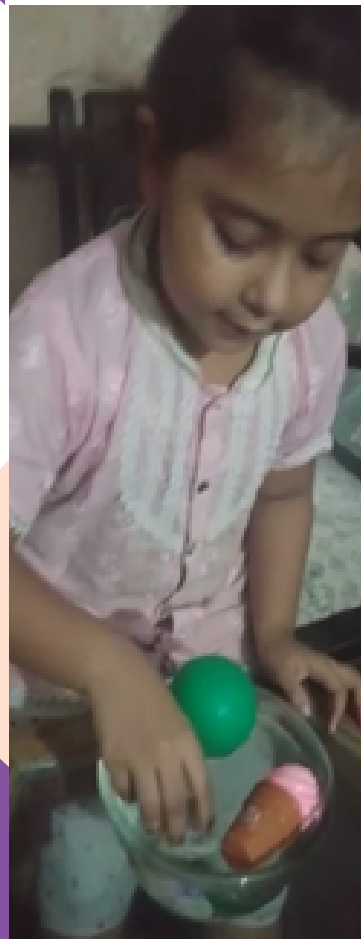
We are confident that the flow in our blended learning approach did not let our students suffer and they gained further on their knowledge and education during the prolonged blended learning time period.



LEARNING THROUGH PLAY



Co-curricular activities are an important part of school teaching and there are various ways to engage students in the activities. However, since remote teaching allows very few such opportunities while dealing particularly with younger students, we tried to blend in some of the best hands-on activities in their online education. They were given hands-on assignments which they would perform at home, and upload their pictures in their WhatsApp class. Here are some glimpses of these activities which our pre-school students performed during the lockdown.



THE YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Travel into Our Solar System:

Our Grades IV and V students exhibited their 3-D Solar System Science at the Science Exhibition held in March 2021, after reopening of schools. Dr. Lubna Amir, Head of FCCU Intermediate Chemistry Department, presided over as the Chief Judge of the exhibition, along with her other faculty members.

All projects were made from recycled materials under the guidance of Ms. Rabia Ali. The students not only gained knowledge about our Solar System but also learnt the importance of recycling. Students worked hard to apply their knowledge and learning in creating interesting projects.



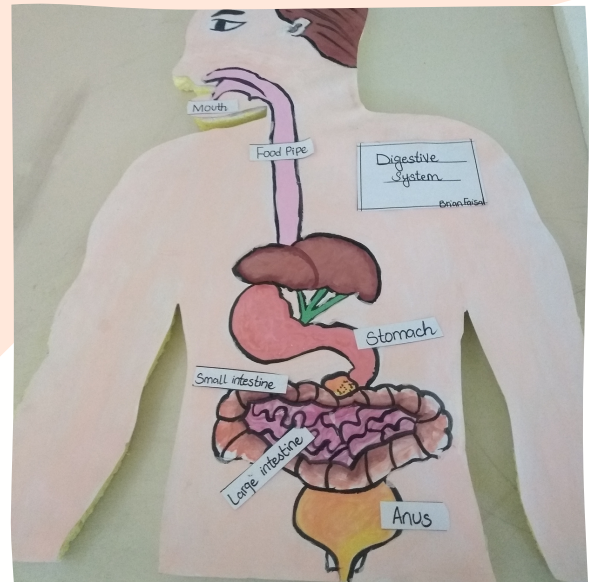
Saving Water for Our Planet:

In order to train our children to be responsible global citizens, we make sure to include a lot of activities on conservation of nature. In February 2021, the students of Grades IV and V made some interesting and attractive 3-D projects demonstrating the hydrological cycle and water pollution. We teach our students that using water wisely can help us protect our water resources, improve water quality, and prevent water pollution.



3-D Digestive Systems and Food Pyramids:

It is essential for children to eat healthy food and to know how it benefits our body. Keeping this in mind the students of Grades IV and V prepared models of Human Digestive System and Food Pyramids. They collected recycled materials and food items to create 3-D Food Pyramid and Human Digestive System.



Saving Plants Projects

To educate our students on undesired side-effects of urbanization and industrialization such as global warming, a Saving Plants Project was organized in February 2021. Other than motivating students to plant trees, teachers are educated students about different species of plants along with procedures of planting them. We also had our gardener guiding students on proper method of plantation and care of saplings.



Traffic Safety and First Aid Projects:

The students created 3-D traffic safety signs and made first aid boxes which included all materials needed for medical aid in case of emergency.



ARTISTS OF THE FUTURE



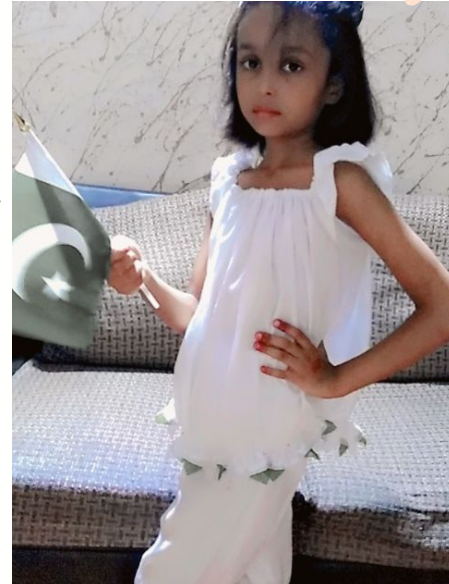
An Easter Art Exhibition was held in the month of March 2021. The idea was not to have a competition, but about giving our students something fun to work on and to help get them into the Easter and Spring spirit. A lot of our young artists picked up their pencils, crayons and paintbrushes and had fun drawing and decorating their Easter art pieces. On the day of the exhibition, we invited offices and families in our FCCU community to join us in appreciating the hard work of our young artists and to buy home favorite Easter art pieces.



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS!



On the occasion of Independence day, our main motive was and always has been to create awareness amongst our children about the pride, courage and sacrifice of our freedom fighters. It is the day when we forget our religious & cultural differences and celebrate with unity. Keeping in mind this spirit, students of Light of Hope School celebrated the day of Independence with fervour and excitement. Though there is a pandemic, students of grade one to eight participated in interesting activities with great enthusiasm and shared their pictures with Light of Hope School. Students drew brilliant pictures of Pakistani flag, Pakistani map, they recorded speeches on Pakistan day, sang the National Anthem and made colorful & attractive booklets demonstrating the history of Pakistan.



G5 Independence day craft work

Moheeb

Anaya

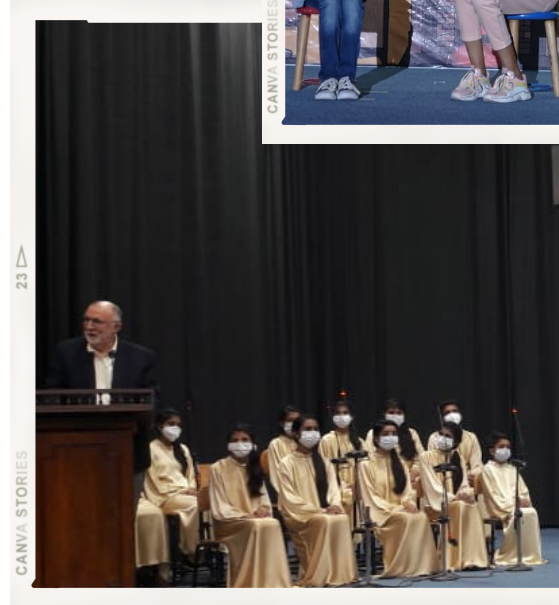
Aronika

Isaac

CHRISTMAS PLAY

Due to the frequent lockdowns and closures it had not been possible for Light of Hope School to prepare its Christmas Play in the year 2020. We all felt sad for not being able to have our own Christmas Play, because, Christmas is too great of an occasion to be left uncelebrated. Since the children had not been able to have any recreational or physical activities due to COVID-19 restrictions, it had been quite unlike a school. Our Christmas presentation in December involved only a small crew presenting a review of our past Christmas plays with glimpses of those plays running on a projector screen. Our school choir also added some ageless classic Christmas carols. The idea was to give our students and FCC family an opportunity to feel upbeat and cheerful at the end of a tough year. We could not invite too many guests because they were all going to sit one seat apart. Nobody was allowed in the hall without a mask and we had thermal guns and hand sanitizers at the entrance.

At the end of the program, we bade farewell to our kind and most loving Rector, Dr. James Tebbe. And we gave a warm welcome to our new Rector, Dr. Jonathan Addleton, whom we all have now known to be extremely supportive and encouraging. We thanked Dr. Jonathan Addleton who has graciously made his time and resources available for further success of our school.



WE ENTER TO LEARN, LEARN TO ACHIEVE



Dr. Jonathan Addleton Rector, FCCU



Brig (R) Nayyer Fardows, Registrar FCCU

In March 2021, our Grade III students conducted interviews of our leadership and various heads of departments at the FCCU. The objective of this activity was to provide our students an insight into different professions, that can later help them choose their future careers.

Our students interviewed the following personalities:

Rector FCCU, Dr. Jonathan Addleton

Chief Engineer, Building & Works Department, Mr. Tajammul John

Registrar FCCU, Brig (R) Nayyer Fardows.

On a broader aspect, this activity actually allowed our students to learn some critical communication skills e.g., asking open-ended questions, keeping questions brief, rephrasing a question if the interviewee evaded a question, embracing pauses and silences, and allowing the interviewee time to think.



Mr. Tajammul John , Chief Engineer,
Building & Works Department

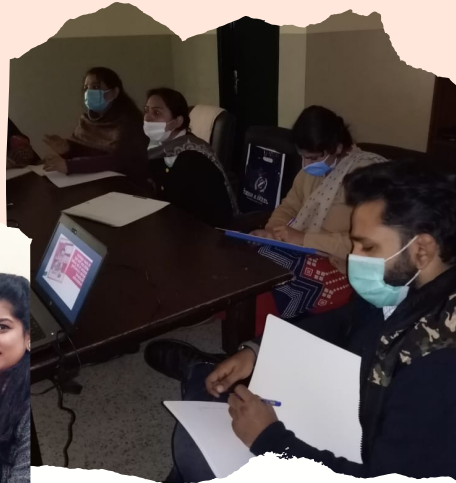


PARENTS-TEACHERS CONFERENCE (PTC)

Parent Teachers Conferences are an important aspect of schooling. It not only provides an opportunity for the parents to know the academic status of their child but also creates a cordial relationship between the parents and the teachers which helps in the betterment of the students. The Light of Hope School was able to conduct two conferences during the pandemic period. Here is a glimpse of the conferences:



TEACHERS' TRAINING WORKSHOPS

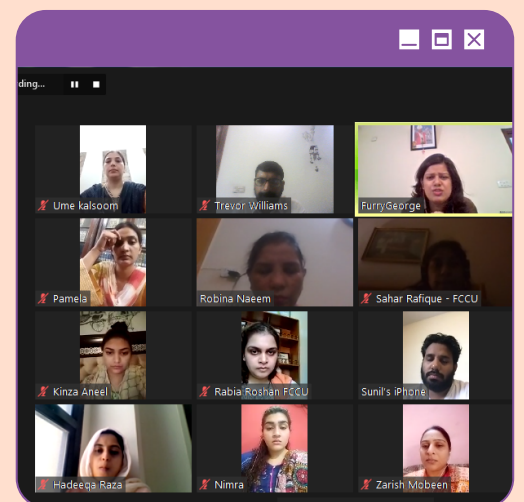
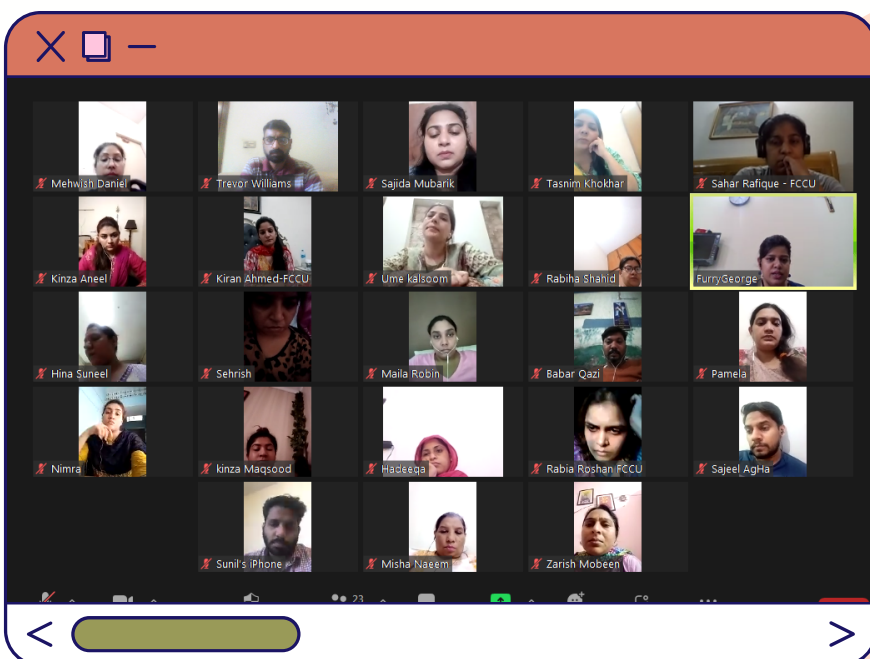
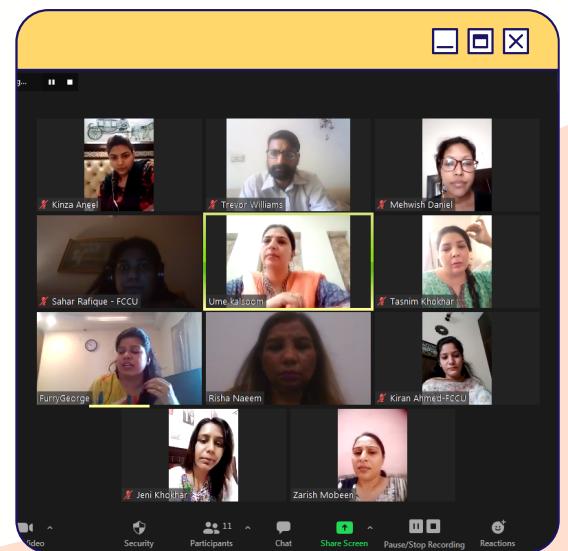
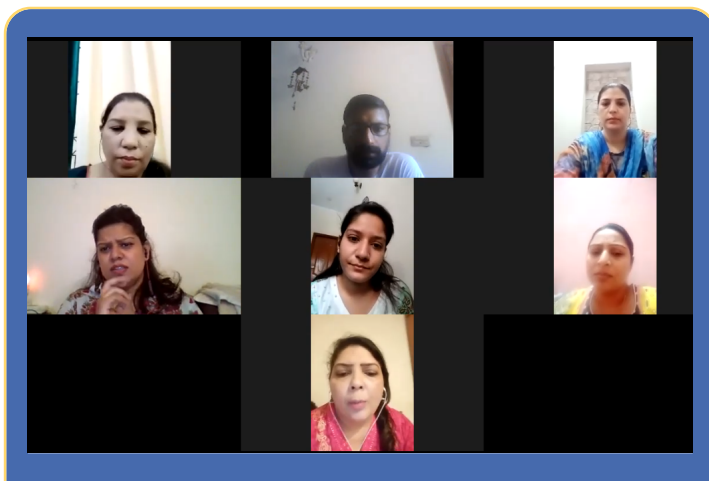
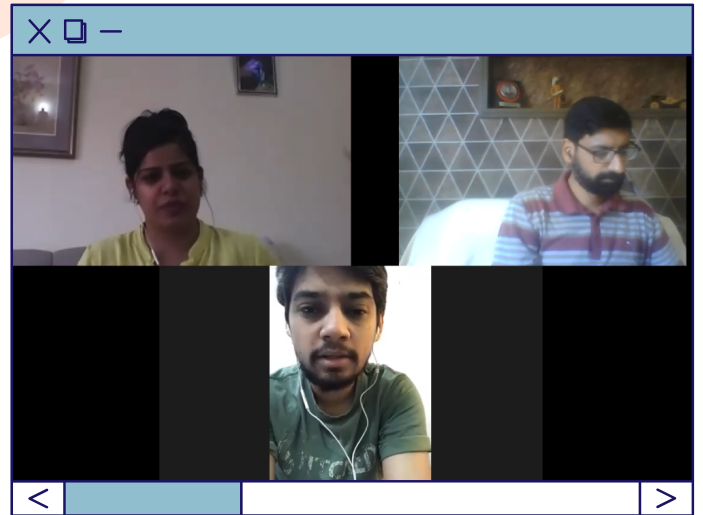
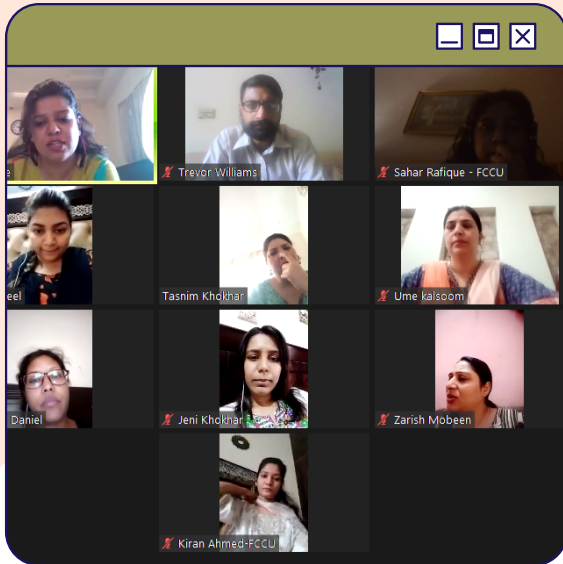


COVID-induced school closures this past year gave us a lot of time and opportunity to focus on improving our existing teaching and learning norms, and work out structural changes which can withstands future COVID-type crises. At Light of Hope School, we conducted three different teachers' training workshops for teachers, one specifically for those who required upskilling on how to be effective in a blended learning teaching environment. These trainings were fully funded by FCCU's Professional Development Program. With continuous professional development of our teachers, we wish to stay prepared in this state of shared education emergency.



ONLINE STAFF MEETINGS

Regular Zoom online meetings were conducted to discuss and address issues that frequently came up during the online teaching period. Since remote teaching was new for most of us we all helped each other in understanding to do things better.



CLASS OF 2021

