



29th March 2020

Dear Parents,

It has been an unprecedented few weeks in Bangladesh and indeed across the world due to the evolving coronavirus pandemic. So a few weeks ago, in response, we took a decision to shut the school, being one of the first academic institutions to do so. Since then, we have been trying to balance the need to deliver our academic programme and at the same time ensure the health and safety of our students and indeed of our teachers, admin personnel and staff. Fortunately we have had online teaching experience in the past which many of our students have participated in and we hope to build on this expertise in the weeks and months ahead as we navigate through uncertainty. Most likely it will be a few weeks and even possibly months before things return to normal. In the meantime we are working on engaging students virtually in all classes. We are fast tracking a training programme for teachers so they are ready with online lessons, assignments and eventually tests.

Cambridge Examinations:

International examinations is one big concern and almost all classes, class 2 upwards were scheduled to appear for ICT, Checkpoints, O, AS or A Levels. These have now all been cancelled - and Cambridge is working with schools to find ways to acknowledge students' academic achievements so that they can move onto the next stage of their educational journey seamlessly. We will keep you updated as Cambridge clarifies exactly how they will award certificates or roll out alternative exam sessions.

Virtual engagements:

CGS has never been only about academics and at this time we would like to ensure that students, parents, teachers and indeed everyone in the CGS families are nurturing their Mind-Body-and Soul (MBS). Leaders and IT teams in each school have come up with strategies to nourish all three aspects and you will be receiving an SMS with a password which will lead you to a privacy protected online platform to engage all stakeholders, provide academic content, lessons and other activities to keep our MBS's nourished. Kindly follow instructions to login in and access all that resources and study packs. It also contains details of group online discussions, Zoom and Google Classrooms to make sure students' stay abreast with their syllabuses, and ensure that their physical and mental health stays robust, in these challenging times.

School Calendar:

The school calendar will most likely be impacted so we suggest you do not make any travel plans in the summer. We will release an updated list of key dates and school holidays.



CHITTAGONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL

E d u c a t i o n f o r L i f e

Looking Ahead:

Global economic downturn that will inevitably follow at the heels of this pandemic, will affect the CGS communities. Therefore, you will be happy to learn that we are freezing fees at current levels for the next academic year. We are also very concerned about our most economically fragile stakeholders - the children and parents of our Community School who are facing unprecedented hardships with many families on daily wages who are without food or basic provisions. We will be giving all Community School students monthly rations and in addition our alumni are galvanizing a movement to reach out to others in need. If you would like to be involved, please contact Raheel Jamal (CGS Alumni) at raheel.cgs.nc@gmail.com or send him an SMS at 01300013258. In addition each of you can be in touch via a hotline number which has already been sent to you or will be sent shortly if it has not yet reached you.

As the pandemic reaches all corners of the globe, Pope Francis in his Friday sermon reminded us, *"We find ourselves afraid and lost. We were caught off-guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented ... all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other."*

As we move Fearlessly Future Forward together in the CGS family boat, let us support each other and be kind and giving to the most vulnerable in our communities.

Wishing you all good health,

Farhat Khan and Shereen Ispahani
CGS Directors

C.G.S. Newsletter

Volume 26, Issue 9

<https://www.cgs.com.bd/newsletter.php?GID=5&MID=38>

April 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

The coronavirus, properly known as COVID-19, is ravaging our world. It is causing a lot of countries to ban movement to and from their borders and also altering travel plans of the whole world. From religious pilgrimages to international sporting events, all plans are being hindered by this virus that is plaguing our civilization right now. It has also affected our attendance to the international conferences that we had planned throughout the year, for which we are deeply regretful. It has also been the reason for us to cancel our Annual Bangla New Year Carnival for this school session. We are taking these steps to ensure the safety of your children, who are our first priority. It is important for us to be cautious during these trying times. There is a lot of false information on this topic and we must be careful about what we read and what we believe in. I ask everyone to stay clean and sanitary in order to prevent catching or spreading the disease any further.

On a lighter note, I would like to highlight the accolades of our students. A big congratulations to Batch of 2020, for raking in an astounding number of acceptances from renowned universities, across the world. This goes to show that all the hours of ECAs, community service, ACP performances and grueling classes do pay off. A big thank you to all the parents and teachers who have helped our students achieve such amazing successes. Upwards and onwards, always!

Ruhbayna Mahmud Chowdhury
Counsellor, Upper School



DAILY STAR NATION-BUILDERS

Pictured above students at the recent ceremony.



SPORTS ROUND-UP ANNUAL ATHLETICS 2019/20

Once again **Courage**, (above) with 445 points, was Champion House, **Service**, with 399 points, was in 2nd place, and **Generosity** was in last place, with 375 points.

Individual results were as follows:

Individual house points for each house

Victrix Ludorum: **Deneb** (10G), 12 points

Victor Ludorum: **Fahad** (12C), 15 points

Inter. Girls Champion: Tied **Mehjabeen** (8K), & **Melinda** (8G) 11 points each

Inter. Boys Champion: **Tanzim** (9S), 20 points

Jr. Girls Champion: **Alvina** (7S), 15 points

Jr. Boys Champion: **Tahsin H.** (7G), 20 points.

TABLE TENNIS: Intermediate Inter-house:

Boys Winner: **Courage**, **Mustavi** (7R),

Girls Winner: **Generosity**, **Preyonti** (6M)

HA-DO-DO: Intermediate Boys Inter-house:

Match 1: **Courage** (18) Vs **Generosity** (27),

Match 2: **Service** (13) Vs **Generosity** (26),

Match 3: **Service** (19) Vs **Courage** (22),

Final: **Generosity** (8) Vs **Courage** (13),

M-O-T-M, **Mithil** (7K).

FOOTBALL: Inter-School

CGS was the winner (pictured right) of the Futsal Tournament 2020 from amongst 10 teams, defeating Turkish Hope in the finals.

EKUSHEY COMMEMORATED

Our Ekushey martyrs were remembered by staff and students as they all came dressed in black and white mufti and laid wreaths on the Ekushey memorial. An Upper School group pictured below.



CGS PROGRAMMING CONTEST

Winners of the programming contest pictured below.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE

Shab-e-Barat*	8.4.2020
Easter Sunday	12.4.2020
Pohela Baishak	14.4.2020
Ramadan*	24.4.2020



MIDDLE ART COMPETITION

Middle School recently hosted the second Student / Parent Art competition (above) where parents and students worked together to produce an art work on our theme, 'Fearless Future Forward'.

LOCKDOWN, CARNIVAL CANCELLED

All CGS Branches have now shut down to minimize social interactions and thereby reduce risk of exposure to the Coronavirus. Parents will be kept posted of virtual classes and study packs via SMS. The CGS Annual Carnival for **Pohela Baishak** has also been cancelled.

