

ULLENS NEWS

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families in good health and spirits.

We begin this edition of our newsletter by remembering Baron Guy Ullens, a visionary philanthropist and the patron of Ullens Education. His passing earlier this year marks the end of an era, but his legacy lives on through the values and aspirations that continue to guide us. His commitment to quality education in Nepal laid the foundation for institutions like ours, and we are deeply grateful for the path he paved.

To all our new parents and students, especially the new parents joining us in Kindergarten, Grade One, and other Grades this year, I would like to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to Ullens School Kathmandu family. We look forward to working in partnership with you all to enrich students' learning experiences and foster their holistic growth.

This year, we proudly marked two years since the inception of Ullens School Kathmandu. On March 11, 2025, we celebrated our second School Day. This occasion reminded us of how far we have come in such a short time. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. Your support, trust, and partnership have helped us build a school community we are immensely proud of.

Among our most exciting milestones is the addition of Grade Ten to our academic program. These students will be the first from Ullens School Kathmandu to take the Secondary Education Examination (SEE), and soon, they will become our very first batch of alumni. It is a significant moment for all of us, and we are preparing for it with great anticipation and care.

I am also pleased to share that 35 of our students have successfully completed the requirements for the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award. Their dedication, resilience, and sense of responsibility reflect the values we aim to nurture in all our learners.

In keeping with our mission to develop well-rounded individuals, we have launched a language lab this year to promote awareness and appreciation of Nepal's diverse ethnic languages and cultural heritage. Through this initiative, we hope to cultivate curiosity and pride in our students for the richness that defines our national identity.

As you read through this newsletter, I hope you feel the energy, purpose, and progress that define Ullens School Kathmandu. Thank you for being with us on this inspiring journey.

Warm regards,

Bunu Karki Thapa
Principal
Ullens School Kathmandu

In loving memory of Baron Guy Ullens



It is with deep sorrow that we remember our patron, Baron Guy Ullens. Born in Belgium in 1935, Baron Ullens led a life marked by purpose, compassion, and an unwavering belief in the transformative power of education.

After a successful career in business, he dedicated himself to philanthropy alongside his wife, Myriam Ullens, founding impactful initiatives across the world with Nepal holding a special place in his heart.

In 2006, Baron Ullens established Ullens School with the vision of providing progressive, child-centered education rooted in international standards and local relevance. His dream was to create a space where young minds could flourish, learning went beyond textbooks and students were empowered to think critically, act ethically, and lead with empathy.

Today, Ullens School community stands as a testament to that vision, nurturing generations of thoughtful and engaged global citizens.

Baron Guy Ullens was more than a patron to the Ullens community, he was a guiding light whose humility, generosity, and commitment to education have left a profound legacy.

At Ullens, we remain forever grateful for his belief in the power of education and are committed to carrying forward his legacy with the same spirit and purpose that defined his extraordinary life.

Language Lab: Embracing Identity through Language

We are excited to announce the launch of the Language Lab at Ullens School Kathmandu, beginning in the academic year 2025/2026 (2082). This unique initiative reflects our deep commitment to diversity, inclusion, and identity-based learning. The Language Lab is designed to connect students with their ancestral roots by offering them the opportunity to learn and explore their ethnic languages through interactive and experience-based activities.

At Ullens, we believe that language is more than just a tool for communication, it is a living expression of culture, heritage, and identity. While our cur-

rent language offerings include English, Nepali, Nepal Bhasa, and Mandarin, the Language Lab aims to expand this by introducing languages such as Tamang, Bhojpuri, Doteli, Maithili, Sherpa and Marwadi. By doing so, we hope to create a learning environment where students feel a stronger sense of belonging and pride in their heritage, while also respecting and celebrating Nepal's incredible linguistic diversity.

On March 23, 2025, we held a parents' meeting to share this exciting development with our community. During the session, we introduced the vision behind the Language Lab and walked

parents through the curriculum framework. The response was encouraging; parents appreciated the school's initiative to honor cultural identities through language, and their feedback added valuable perspectives as we shape this program.

We look forward to seeing how the Language Lab enriches our students' learning journeys, deepens their understanding of self and community, and strengthens the values that lie at the heart of the Ullens Education philosophy.

Completion of Continuous Professional Development Course

Ullens School Kathmandu remains committed to enhancing the quality of education by investing in the continuous professional development of its educators. Recently, teachers from both Ullens School and Ullens School Kathmandu completed the Continuous Professional Development Course, a 3-credit program accredited

by Kathmandu University and led by expert trainers from the Ullens Center for Educator Development (UCED).

This course focused on innovative teaching strategies and reflective practices, equipping our educators with the skills needed to better engage and sup-

port today's learners. Certificates were awarded to participants, marking their dedication to growth and excellence in education. By fostering a culture of ongoing learning, Ullens ensures that its teaching community remains dynamic, skilled, and responsive to the evolving needs of students.



DIVERSITY WEEK

At Ullens Community, Diversity Day is a cherished tradition where we celebrate the wide range of cultures, languages, and backgrounds that make our school community unique. This year, however, we decided to take things a step further and mark the occasion as Diversity Week, expanding the celebration to not only honor cultural diversity but also explore career diversity.

The week began with the Kindergarteners commemorating Diversity Week on March 4, 2025. They showcased their understanding of diversity through vibrant performances, including songs, dances, and skits, while their parents joined in the celebration and enjoyed the festivities.

On March 10, students from Grades One, Two, and Three continued the celebration by presenting a mesmerizing pro-

gram filled with performances that reflected their rich cultural backgrounds. This was followed by a potluck lunch where families came together to share food, experiences, and stories, reinforcing the sense of community that makes Ullens School Kathmandu so special.

The culmination of Diversity Week occurred on March 11, a landmark day where we celebrated Diversity Day alongside our Second School Day, marking two years of Ullens School Kathmandu. On this day, students and staff dressed in their ethnic attire, and the whole school came together for performances, celebrations, and shared appreciation for the diversity within our community.

In a special addition to this year's celebration, we introduced Career Diversity to expand the scope of our discussions.

Throughout the week, five parents from diverse professional fields interacted with our Eighth and Ninth Graders, offering valuable insights into their careers and the paths they have taken. The guests included:

- Mindset Coach Ms. Zenisha Moktan
- Advocate Ms. Radhika Khatiwada
- Cyber Security Expert Mr. Bijay Limbu
- Senior Pilot Mr. Shovan Basnet
- Captain of Nepal's Basketball Team Mr. Sadish Pradhan

Diversity Week at Ullens School Kathmandu served as a powerful reminder of the strength we find in our differences and the importance of embracing both cultural and career diversity. It was a celebration of unity, inclusion, and the endless opportunities that lie ahead for our students.



Journey to the Bronze Award at Duke of Edinburgh International Award

Thirty-five Ninth Graders successfully earned the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh International Award (DoEIA), demonstrating remarkable dedication and growth.

Their journey encompassed:

- Skill development: Students honed skills in football, basketball, arts, and cooking, fostering teamwork and discipline.
- Community service: They donated books and art to Shahid Gangalal National Heart Center and spent quality time with residents at Hope Hermitage Elderly Care, nurturing compassion and empathy.
- Adventure: An overnight stay at Ban Jungle Adventure included hiking, meal preparation, camping, wall climbing, and zip-lining, building survival skills and resilience.
- Cultural exchange: Five students performed a traditional Kumari dance for Prince Edward, The Duke of Edinburgh, at the 'Award in Action: Showcasing Nepal's Excellence in Youth Development' event, receiving praise for their graceful representation of Nepali culture.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements, which have fostered confidence, compassion, and responsibility.



Curriculum Events

At the beginning of the new academic year 2025/2026 (2082), we hosted Curriculum Events for parents across all grades. During this event, parents were introduced to Ullens' Philosophy and

Pedagogy along with sharing insights into grade-specific curriculum and activities. The event also included discussions on the focus areas and strategies to support students' holistic growth.

Thank you to all the parents for taking an active step in your child's educational journey.



KG Graduation cum Grandparents' Day

On March 30, 2025, the Kindergartners at Ullens School Kathmandu took a big step forward, officially graduating and preparing to move on to elementary school. It was a wonderful moment that celebrated

their hard work and growth over the past year.

The day was made even more special by honoring the important bond between the Kindergarteners and their

Grandparents as we also celebrated the Grandparents' Day. It was a beautiful reminder of the love, wisdom, and support that grandparents provide to shape the young minds of tomorrow.





Curricular Activities



UNIT OF INQUIRY EXHIBITIONS

The Importance of Hygiene for Health

From proper hand washing techniques to daily routines that keeps the germs away, the Second Graders explored the impact of good hygiene on health and ways to stay healthy in their Unit of Inquiry (UOI) exhibition. It was inspiring to see the young learners take charge of their well-being and spread their knowledge to family and friends.



Understanding Society and Our Impact

The Third Graders centered the theme of their Unit of Inquiry (UOI) on "We, Our Society, and Our Impact". It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to share what they have learned about how communities function, how goods and services meet our needs and wants, and the important roles different services play in our lives to their parents.



Exploring Sustainability and Technology

The Fourth and Fifth Graders' explored two interconnected themes: "The Responsible Use of Natural Resources is Essential for a Sustainable Future" and "Technology and Its Evolution" in their Unit of Inquiry (UOI) Exhibition.

Through creative presentations, experiments, and interactive activities, students showcased their understanding of sustainability and technological advancements. By bridging these concepts, the exhibition encouraged

critical thinking about the future and highlighted the students' development as responsible global citizens, prepared to contribute to meaningful change.



STEAM EXPO

The STEAM Expo for Fourth and Fifth Graders offered a platform for students to showcase their creativity and problem-solving skills through a variety of projects. From hands-on science experiments to engineering challenges and artistic designs, students demonstrated

how they apply their classroom learning to real-world problems. Projects included a working renewable energy model, interactive math puzzles, and art pieces that combined geometry with creative expression. These projects not only highlighted the students' understand-

ing of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics but also reflected their ability to collaborate, think critically, and innovate. It was an engaging display of how these subjects come together to spark curiosity and inspire learning.



Individual Inquiry Project

As part of the Grade Nine curriculum, the Individual Inquiry Project (IIP) offers students the opportunity to engage in independent research on a social studies-related topic of their choice. The project is designed to foster curiosity, critical thinking, and academic inquiry, helping students develop key research and presentation skills.

Over a span of three months, students researched a wide range of topics rel-

evant to contemporary society. These included the effects of infertility on women's mental health in the Kathmandu Valley, access to maternal healthcare in Karnali Province, financial literacy among teenagers, and waste management challenges in urban areas. Each student was responsible for selecting a topic, conducting in-depth research, analyzing data, and forming well-supported conclusions.

The project concluded with a seminar, where students presented their findings to peers and teachers. The event provided a platform for students to communicate their insights clearly, engage in meaningful discussions, and reflect on their learning process. The IIP experience not only strengthened academic skills but also encouraged a deeper understanding of real-world issues.



Extra-Curricular Activities



FUTSAL LEAGUE



SENIOR BASKETBALL LEAGUE



KG's Play Day

The Kindergarteners at Ullens School Kathmandu had a fantastic Play Day which was filled with laughter, discovery, and active learning. The day started with an enthusiastic march

and drill, setting a spirited tone for the activities ahead. Students then rotated through various play stations in small groups, enjoying obstacle courses, balancing games, and team chal-

lenges. Smiles and cheers filled the air as they encouraged one another and celebrated each success which made it a memorable day filled with joyful exploration and teamwork.



Annual Sports Meet

The Annual Sports Meet is a much-anticipated event at Ullens School Kathmandu. It is an event that promotes physical well-being, teamwork, discipline, and resilience among students. This year's sports meet was held at the National Police Academy in Mahara-gunj. During the event, all students participated in a range of track and field events, including sprints, relays, and tug of war where they challenged themselves, supported their peers, and demonstrated the values of fair play and perseverance. It was a wonderful celebration of athleticism.



CELEBRATIONS AT Ullens School Kathmandu

इन्द्रजात्रा

नेपाल भाषा पाठ्यक्रम कथं युलेन्स स्कूल
यँया ब्वनेकुथिइ यँया: पुन्हि (इन्द्रजात्रा)
तसकं बाँलाक, न्हैपुसे च्वंक जुला धिमे
बाजंया ब्वज्याया नापं लाखे, पुलुकिसिया
प्याखँ नं इन्द्रजात्रा ब्वज्या भःभः धागु
स्वयेदता कुमारी, गणेश, भैरव प्रतीककथं
रथय् विराजमान याका रथ साला कयंगु
लुच्येछायेबहः जुा इन्द्रजात्रा प्रस्तुती लिपा
सकसितं समयबजि नकेगु ज्या जुगु खः।

नेपाल भाषा पाठ्यक्रम अनुसार
काठमाडौंको कला, संस्कृति र परम्परालाई
अनुभव गर्नका लागि साथसाथै सिकाइ र
बुझाइलाई जीवन र जगतसँग जोड्नका
लागि युलेन्स स्कूल काठमाडौंको प्राङ्गणमा
भव्यताकासाथ इन्द्रजात्रा कार्यक्रमको
आयोजना गरिएको थियो। धिमे बाजाको
प्रदर्शन, लाखे र पुलुकिसिको नाचले

साँच्चिकै इन्द्रजात्राको अनुभूती भयो।
कुमारी, गणेश, भैरवको प्रतीकको रुपमा
रथमा विराजमान गराई रथ तान्दै गरेको
दृश्य अति नै प्रशंसनीय थियो। प्रसादको
रुपमा सबैले समयबजि ग्रहण गरेर
कार्यक्रमको समापन गरिएको थियो।



CLASS DAY

Kindergarten



Grade Two



Grade Three



Grade Four



VAPA SHOW: Grade Seven



KG's Fun Fair



More *Knowledgeable Other*

Waste Management Session

The students of Grade Five participated in an insightful and interactive session on waste and waste management led by Ms. Rubina Thapaliya from Khalisisi. The session provided students with a comprehensive understanding of the various categories of waste, including organic, recyclable, and non-recyclable materials, with a particular focus on the growing concern of electronic waste (e-waste). Furthermore, Ms. Thapaliya shed light on the current practices and challenges of waste management within the Kathmandu Valley, offering valuable local context to the topic. This engaging interaction aimed to educate our students on responsible waste disposal and the importance of sustainable practices.



Book Talk with Karuna Paneru

Ullens School Kathmandu hosted an engaging book talk featuring Grade Ten student of Ullens School, Khumaltar and author, Karuna Paneru. She interacted with students from KG to Grade Nine, answering their questions about her writing journey and the inspiration behind her book, 'A Tale of Yaya.'

Karuna shared that Olga Murray, whom she described as a grandmother figure, inspired her to write the book as a tribute to her remarkable legacy. The session celebrated Karuna's literary success and honored Olga Murray's significant contributions and lasting impact on the Ullens community.



Learning Beyond **BOUNDARIES**

Visit to the Mushroom Farm

As part of their Science curriculum, our Grade Nine students embarked on an enriching field trip to a mushroom farm situated in Madhyapur, Thimi, Bhaktapur. This hands-on experience provided them with a valuable opportunity to observe the fascinating world of fungi up close. During the visit, students learned to differentiate between poisonous and non-poisonous mushroom varieties.

They also had the chance to witness each distinct stage of the mushroom life cycle, gaining a deeper understanding of the biological processes involved. This practical exploration reinforced their classroom learning and highlighted the ecological significance of fungi and the importance of preserving natural habitats. Furthermore, the students gained insights into how

mushroom farming contributes to the livelihoods of local communities and plays a role in Nepal's economy. This aspect of the trip underscored the real-world applications of scientific knowledge and the interconnectedness of science, community, and economic development, making it a truly educational and meaningful day for our students.



Grade One Explores the Shoe Factory

What goes into making a shoe? Our Grade One students discovered the answer during their visit to the K.D. Shoes Industry in Bhagal, Budhanilkantha. As part of their multidisciplinary theme, "Community Helpers," this field trip offered a fascinating glimpse into the complete shoe production cycle, from the initial raw materials to the final finished product. The young learners were captivated as they witnessed each stage of the process, gaining a valuable understanding of the vital role of shoemakers and their significant contributions to our community.



Grade Three's Overnight Stay

The Third Grade students recently embarked on an exciting overnight adventure to the Green Valley Resort in Dandagaun, Budhanilkantha, creating lasting memories and engaging in valuable experiential learning.

The trip offered a wonderful opportunity for the young learners to explore the serene natural beauty of the area. They enjoyed a visit to a nearby Tamang village, providing a glimpse into local culture and traditions. Evenings were filled with camaraderie as students shared a barbeque with their

friends and engaged in playful games under the open sky.

The purpose of this immersive experience was to encourage observation and interaction with the diverse plant life, weather patterns, and overall surroundings. Through these hands-on activities, the Third Graders honed their observational skills, sparked their scientific curiosity about the natural world, and hopefully nurtured a lifelong appreciation for it. This overnight trip proved to be a delightful blend of fun, friendship, and meaningful learning.



Hike to the Putali Danda

Sixth Grade students recently undertook an educational field visit to Putali Danda as part of their interdisciplinary learning. The focus of the trip was to enhance their understanding of plant biology through direct observation.

Students learned to distinguish between flowering and non-flowering plants, examined their structures and reproductive methods, and observed various seed dispersal techniques. Additionally, they engaged in mapping activities and created

land art, integrating scientific exploration with spatial awareness and creativity. This practical experience aimed to foster a deeper appreciation for plant life and reinforce classroom learning in an engaging outdoor setting.



Exploring the world of Plants

The First Grade students went on an educational field visit to Kumari Nursery in Tokha. This experiential learning opportunity aimed to enrich their understanding of plant life and their importance.

During the visit, the young learners had the chance to observe a diverse array of plants and discover the essential elements required for their growth. They also gained insights into the vital role plants play within the broader

ecosystem. This visit was designed to spark curiosity among the students regarding plant care and to emphasize the significance of plants and the individuals who cultivate them.



कुञ्ज नाटक घर

युलेन्स स्कूल काठमाडौंका कक्षा चार र पाँचमा अध्ययनरत विद्यार्थीहरूले 'कुञ्ज नाटक घर' मा कक्षामा अध्ययन गरेका कथाहरूमा आधारित नाटकहरू – 'सुनको मूर्ति' र 'रोबोट गाउँ' – हेर्ने अवसर प्राप्त गरेका थिए। ती नाटकहरूले प्रकृति र जनावरहरूप्रति गर्नुपर्ने दायित्वका साथै समाजमा विद्यमान वर्गीय विभाजन,

मानिसको इच्छाहरू, र परम्परागत मूल्यहरूको टकरावलाई उजागर गरेका थिए।

नेपाली कक्षामा पढिएका कथाहरूलाई जीवित रूपमा मञ्चन गरिएको नाटकका रूपमा हेर्ने अवसर पाउँदा विद्यार्थीहरू अत्यन्तै रमाएका थिए। नाटक हेरेपछि

उनीहरूको शैक्षिक अनुभव अझ सशक्त र स्मरणीय बनेको देखिन्छ। नाटकका पात्रहरूको अभिनय यति प्रभावशाली थियो कि उनीहरूले कथालाई जीवन्त रूपमा प्रस्तुत गरेका थिए। नाटक सकिएपछि विद्यार्थीहरूले नाटकका पात्रहरूसँग अन्तरक्रिया गर्नुका साथै उनीहरूसँग अभिनय पनि गरेका थिए।



Outdoor Learning Projects



Grade Six and Seven

This year's Outdoor Learning Project took Grade Six and Seven students to the scenic hills of eastern-central Nepal to explore Kuri, Jiri, Charikot, and Sukute. It was a journey filled with learning, laughter, and discovery. Along the way, students explored rural life,

connected with local communities, and gained a deeper understanding of Nepal's cultural and economic diversity. A highlight was their visit to a community school in Sukute, where they donated over 200 books raised during their Market Fair.

Whether hiking through scenic trails, learning about mining in Khairidhunga, or simply listening to stories from locals, our students returned with new perspectives and lasting memories.



Grades Four and Five

Grade Four and Five students ventured into the cultural and natural richness of central Nepal for this year's Outdoor Learning Project, exploring Namo Buddha, Balthali, Panauti, Dhulikhel, and Bhaktapur.

From quiet monastery visits in Namo Buddha to hiking through Balthali and

learning about the Tamang community in Danda Gaun, students immersed themselves in rural life and cultural traditions. A visit to a local school in Balthali allowed for meaningful exchange and connection with fellow students and teachers.

The journey wrapped up with a creative twist in Bhaktapur, where students tried their hands at traditional pottery. Along the way, the students learned, connected, and grew in their understanding of Nepal's diverse landscape and heritage.



Natural Landforms at Tarebhir

First Graders went on a field trip to Tarebhir where they learned about natural landforms. This trip allowed our students to observe hills and valleys in the natural setting. By connecting classroom learning with real-world exploration, the students deepened their understanding of earth's landforms in a fun and engaging way.



Farming, Technology and Local Business at Raithane Agri Products

To explore the contribution of farming, technology and local businesses in daily life, Fourth and Fifth Graders visited Raithane Agri Products Ne-

pal. Through hands-on activities and guided tours, the students discovered how technology helps farmers, the role of electricity in agriculture, and

the importance of supporting local businesses. The trip helped to spark curiosity and appreciation for farming and sustainability in our students.



रिमा समाज सेवामा

बुढानीलकण्ठ स्पेशल चोकस्थित रिमा समाज सेवामा मिति २०८१/१२/०५ गते, हाम्रा कक्षा ६ का विद्यार्थीहरूले नेपाली भाषा र सामाजिक अध्ययन विषयलाई एकीकृत गर्दै ज्येष्ठ नागरिकहरूप्रति आफ्नो कर्तव्यबोध गर्न अवसर पाए। वृद्धाश्रम भ्रमणका क्रममा विद्यार्थीहरूले बुबा-आमासँग अन्तरक्रिया गर्दै उहाँहरूका अनुभवहरू सुन्ने मौका पाए। यस भ्रमणले विद्यार्थीहरूलाई ज्येष्ठ नागरिकहरूलाई सहयोग गर्नुपर्छ भन्ने गहिरो अनुभूति गरायो।



Visit to the Central Zoo

The Third Graders visited Central Zoo in Jawalakhel, Lalitpur, as part of their science curriculum. The trip offered experiential learning to the students by creating opportunity for them to explore topics such as food chains and

food webs, animal migration, and the effects of deforestation and pollution on wildlife.

This interactive outing helped students make meaningful connections

between their classroom learning and the natural world, encouraging curiosity and a deeper appreciation for animals and their habitats.



Observing Forest and Nature

Our Second Graders went on a fun-filled hike to Shivapuri National Park as part of their unit on forests and nature. Surrounded by the serene beauty of the park, the young explorers were captivated by the wonders of the natural world.

During the hike, they identified various ferns and wild plants, and excitedly spotted tiny caterpillars along the way. This outdoor experience allowed students to connect their classroom learning with real-world observations, deepening their understanding of nature while nurturing a genuine appreciation for the environment and its many marvels.



A Center of Excellence in Education



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