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LA GAZETTE

Newsletter of The French International School of Mumbai



LYCÉE FRANÇAIS
INTERNATIONAL
DE MUMBAI



aefe
Agence pour
l'enseignement français
à l'étranger

LIFE AT LFIM





WORD OF THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Sir, Madam
Dear Parents of Students,

The Lycée Français International de Mumbai is an excellent school, located on the west coast of India, in a fast growing modern city. Our school is accredited by the French Ministry of Education and is managed by a director appointed by the Agency for French Education Abroad (aeфе.fr). The school is also accredited by the local Indian authorities.

We have in our school more than 24 nationalities from all over the world. If you travel around the world, you will be lucky to find a school from our AEFE network as we have more than 550 schools worldwide. When you choose our school, you are offering the world to your children.

Our Lycée offers each student personalized support from our teachers. The student, the child, the teenager and the individual are at the heart of our school and we work together every day for the happiness, fulfillment and personal, intellectual and emotional development of your child.

Our students are welcomed from the age of two years old in a bilingual environment in Toute Petite Section (TPS) of the Maternelle. Our students are taught in French and English from an early age, and follow the French and American curriculum in English ([USA Common Core curriculum in English](#)) from TPS to Terminale.

In Grade 5, our students must choose a third language (Spanish or German). In the Lycée, from Grade 10 to the last year of high school (Grade 12), our students can choose courses such as: Mathematics, Economic and Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, Foreign Languages and Cultures, Languages and Ancient Cultures, Biology and Ecology, Engineering Sciences, Life and Earth Sciences, History, Geography, Geopolitics and Political Science, in addition to the compulsory courses.

We can provide your children with specific support in French and English in Primary, Middle and High School. We offer each student individualized support adapted to their needs.

I spent 14 years in English schools under the AEFÉ agreement (Lycée Français de New York and Lycée Français de San Francisco in the USA, Lycée Condorcet de Sydney in Australia), which allowed me to develop a bilingual education of excellence with French and English curriculum.

We look forward to welcoming your children, our students, for new educational adventures, wonderful learning experiences and wonderful successes!

Yours respectfully,

Bruno LE BRIZE

**“ Help me to do it myself. ”
- Maria Montessori**

PRE-BACK TO SCHOOL MEETINGS

LFIM held its pre-back to school meetings with the entire staff on 1st September. News, information, laughs and food were shared between the staff, who met after the summer break.

The day began with introductions of the new staff by the Director, followed by a few words shared by the new Attaché for Cooperation in the French Language Mr. Prash Palanimalai from the Consulate General of France in Mumbai. A presentation was then shared which included important points for the new school year and a video presentation which featured the Director of the AEFE Mr. Olivier Brochet.

We were also joined by the Counsellor for Education, Science and Culture, Mr. Emmanuel Lebrun-Damiens, and the Attaché for Cooperation in Education Ms. Fatiha Kammoussi from New Delhi via video-conference, who congratulated LFIM on its continued commitment to providing bilingual education of the highest standard. The meetings ended with a group photo and a fantastic lunch.

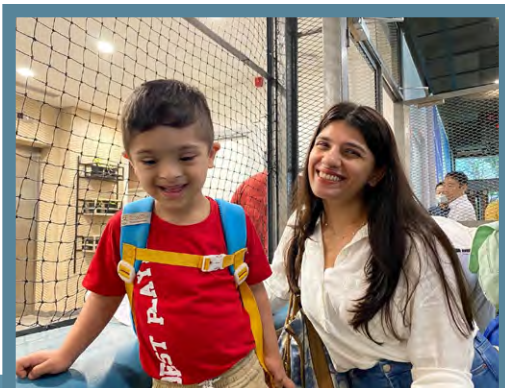


IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL!

Hugs, laughter and a few tears could be heard and seen at the gate when students entered and met their friends and teachers after the summer break!

Proud parents were greeted by the Principal and a special guest! The Consul General Mr. Jean-Marc Séré-Charlet welcomed students and shared a few words of comfort in a new environment for many of our new families.

A wonderful first day back!



BACK IN TIME

Our school opened its doors for the very first time on 5 September 1983 and welcomed 7 students at its Breach Candy campus in South Mumbai. While Bombay may have become Mumbai, Ecole Française Internationale de Bombay become Lycée Français International de Mumbai (LFIM), we can never forget our roots and our community who have helped the school grow over these past 39 years. From a quaint setup at Breach Candy, to an idyllic bungalow at Worli, and now a spacious and cosy campus at Lower Parel; LFIM grows alongside the city.

In 2023, we celebrate 40 years since our founding! Over the course of the year, this newsletter will showcase testimonials and stories from our staff who know the school best.



'My first day as a teacher in my own Kindergarten school classroom had me feeling excited and nervous in equal measure. However, I tried not to worry too much and told myself that even the most seasoned teacher can feel apprehensive about meeting new students at the beginning of each school year.'

For me, preparation is crucial. I spent a few days towards the end of the summer holidays decorating my new classroom, developing resources and planning my first week of lessons. Forward planning gives me a sense of confidence and, in my opinion, is the key to success.'

Vidhi LAL
Teacher at LFIM since 2013
Kindergarten

MY FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL





A SMALL FAMILY

'Our LFIM has been through many stories and adventures! It's been 8 years since I joined LFIM and since then, as in a family, we have had our ups and downs with the departure of friends, the arrival of other friends, the round of students and families, with beautiful surprises, with a move, with the health crisis... But we are united and we have successfully gone through all these trials. Success that also crowns, each year, the exams of our students of 3e, 1ère and Terminale. It is therefore a real pleasure to be part of this great team for so many years and to be able to contribute to the education of our dear students, not only by instilling knowledge and method in a good mood but also, and above all, by bringing my little stone to the building to make them good citizens of the world.'

Jean-Baptiste FAUCHILLE
Professor at LFIM since 2015
Secondary

COFFEE AND CROISSANTS

As part of our back-to-school events, we had the pleasure of inviting our parents for a quintessential French morning with the Principal on 5 September, which was also Teacher's Day. With the children downstairs in their classrooms, parents, old and new, were able to mingle and meet over coffee, tea, croissants and pastry. Twenty-four nationalities in one room, now that is a record!

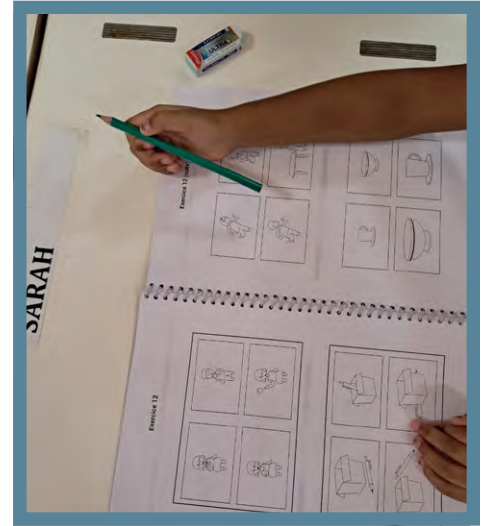
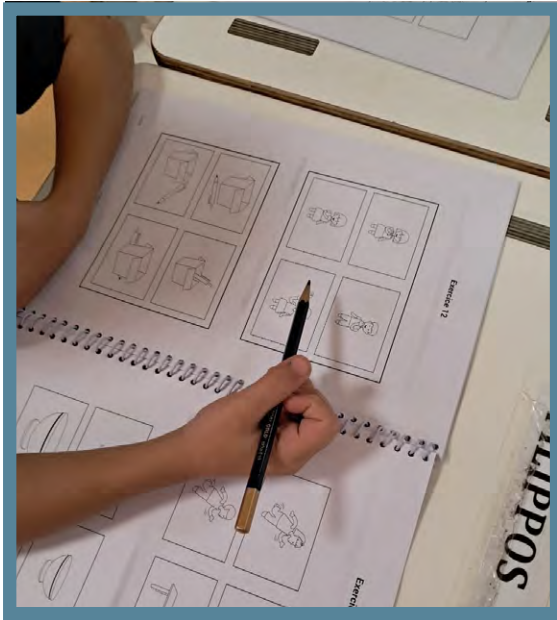
As a special treat, parents were able to enter their children's classrooms and give them a quick hello!



GANESHA

Students in MS had a fun outing to see Ganesha. A stone's throw from the school, they were accompanied by Vidhi, their English teacher and Agnes, the class assistant to the mandap. A 'mandap' is a covered structure temporarily created for religious or ceremonial purposes. The children, dressed in their colourful best, learned about the elephant headed god and were mesmerized by the music and colours.





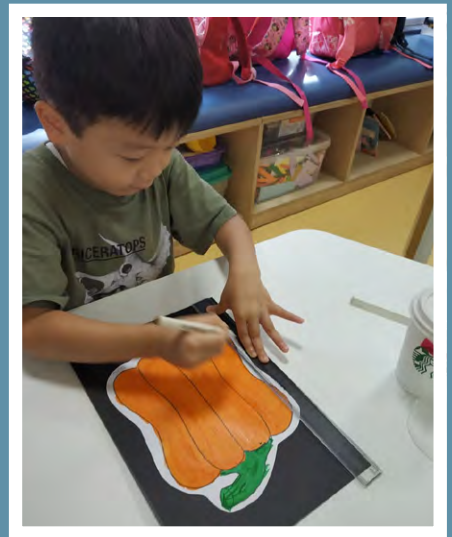
ASSESSMENTS OF THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

On 16 September, all CP and CE1 pupils in France and in AEFE schools all over the world, took the French national assessments. These assessments allow us to help each pupil individually according to their specific needs. For the moment, our students seem to be doing very well in these national assessments.



PUMPKIN ART

The GS were inspired by renowned Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama. They understood how to create mesmerizing pumpkin art by first painting the pumpkin using a paint brush. A background was created with a ruler, allowing the children to appreciate the instrument and permitting them to create straight lines in any form. Using a cotton-bud, they dove into their artworks and created Polka dots of various sizes using black paint! Evidently, this is the best part of Yayoi Kusama's artwork.





NAVRATRI

Nobody celebrates a festival better than LFIM and its students! Take a look at the Navratri celebrations which brought the entire school together for a festive morning.





A CULTURAL EXCHANGE

The children of MS1 and GS were invited to Hill Spring International School to celebrate the festival of Navratri. They got an insight to the significance of the festival through stories, performances and dances. Delicious snacks were then eaten in a group!

A big thank you to the faculty and children of Hill Spring International School for welcoming our students, as well as our teachers and parents for accompanying our little ones.



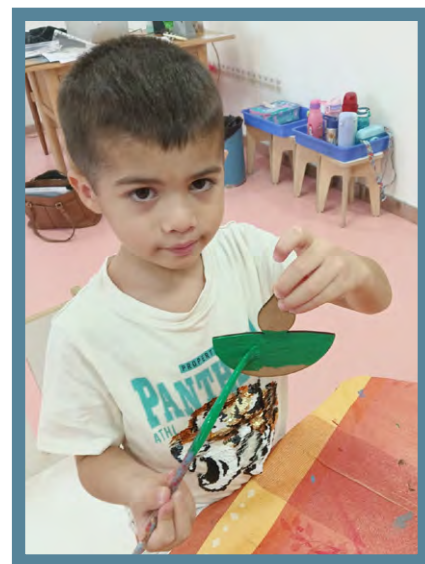


DIYAS

'Diwali is a Hindu festival that takes place during the months of Asvina (October) and Karika (November). Being the festival of lights, small oil lamps (diyas) are lit and placed around the home. People have fun: they give each other sweets, play with fireworks, and dress up in their favorite and newly-bought outfits.

To begin the celebrations, the MS students painted diyas to take home their festive decoration. Happy Diwali to all!'

Enara, MS1, MS2
French





LET THERE BE LIGHT

From creating and painting Diyas in class, to drawing and filling in rangolis (patterns) with colour and flowers, the entire school came together to celebrate the festival of lights. Students had a serene story-telling class on Diwali and could not stop admiring their battery operated diyas. Delicious sweets were distributed to one another, with many asking for a second helping!

LFIM wishes you and your loved ones a very Happy Diwali!





FIRE DRILL

As part of our safety programs, the whole school carried out its first fire drill of the school year. All students, teachers and staff gathered in a secure area away from the school compound in a record time of 3 minutes and 8 seconds.

This new location will prevent, in the event of a real fire, debris and stones from falling on anyone standing near the school building.

The Kindergarteners walked with the help of a rope with their teachers and assistants guiding them. An important exercise, wonderfully executed!





OPEN HOUSE

The first Open House of the year was held on 19 October in the morning. We welcomed prospective parents and guests, together, to learn the ABCs of our school. On the agenda?

- Meet the team and discover the French educational system.
- What makes the AEFE networks of schools different?
- Explore the campus and see classes as they are on.
- Learn about the admissions process.
- Eat croissants and sip delightful coffee

Most importantly, learn that LFIM is an inclusive school and welcomes students from all over the world.

We thank everyone for joining us for a wonderful meet-up at Lycée. See you soon!



THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Students of CE2, CM1, CM2 (Grades 3, 4, 5) are proud to present their rendition of the Indian National Anthem: Jana Gana Mana

After weeks of practice, under the guidance of their English teacher Sayali, their hard work paid off with a splendid performance.

[Click here to watch their video](#)



Punjaba-Sindhu-Gujarata-Maratha

SCIENCE BEYOND BORDERS

The Science Beyond Borders exhibition showcases the shared scientific history of Indo-French collaborations. Curated by Institut Français en Inde and its partners, the exhibition had been conceived specifically for this edition of Bonjour India marking 75 years of Independence and 75 years of the establishment of Indo-French relations.

Our Secondary students had a wonderful time visiting the exhibition at the Piramal Museum of Art. They took a journey into this extraordinary history and the stories of exchanges between the greatest scientific minds of the two countries across centuries, right until modern-day.



TIME TO PAINT

Paintbrushes, a crisp sheet, a classmate and paint!

At the end of a long day, getting your hands full of paint is always a good idea. Here you can see the 6th graders during their Art class (English) with Mihir, using colours to create a stunning seasonal backdrop.



A GLOBAL BREAKFAST

What's on the menu?

Poha, Dosa and Dhokla from India. Pancakes from Canada. Crêpes from France. Miso Soup and Egg Rolls from Japan. Sweets from Morocco. And so many more!

As part of their English social studies class with Ayesha on food and culture, the children of CE1 (Grade 2) brought iconic dishes which are usually served in their home countries for breakfast. The children tasted pieces from each other's platters and certainly enjoyed themselves in a rather fun lesson. Now that is a delicious way to learn.







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