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Mental health & well-being is an essential aspect of school education wherein the young minds are trained to develop their skills & potentials. Educationists recognize the fact that students' mental health can influence their learning as well as achievements. Considering these aspects, our school curriculum incorporates a carefully planned Counseling & Guidance Programme that aims to flourish the educational journey, promote skill development, develop resilience against adversity & resolve their concerns before those can snow-ball into serious psychological problems.

ONE TO ONE COUNSELLING

- Counselling services are being provided to students as well as parents on a one to one
 basis in order to address their challenges in academic, behavioral, cognitive, emotional and
 delayed developmental aspects. Students referred by class teachers /coordinators are
 individually counselled with adequate follow-up sessions depending upon the nature of
 their problem. Parental counseling and family therapy are done in cases where it is found
 to be necessary.
- During online academic sessions counselling services have been provided online (through phone & video calling) to students as well as parents on a one to one basis The details of the sessions were recorded & maintained in soft /hard copy
- Teaching and non-teaching staff also approaches the counsellor seeking assistance in addressing their problems to improve their performance at work. Counselling services are also extended to such staff members (teachers, administrative staff and support staff) as & when required.

GUIDANCE PROGRAMME

- Several mass/ group counselling also known as guidance programmes are organized in school for the students to encourage academic development, improve behaviour, creative abilities & other life skills. In addition to that, special counselling sessions are also conducted for the students (in upper middle & senior wing) in the presence of their parents focusing upon concerns during the period of adolescence, academic, behaviour & career development. Besides that, class based group sessions are conducted to guide students on specific aspects like examination, academic development & rules /regulations.
- During the online academic session, looking into the student strength, guidance programmes were conducted through videos in order to facilitate academic development, improve their emotional /social well-being during this challenging period. In addition to that, special online counselling sessions are also conducted through online educational platforms (Zoom) focusing upon numerous aspects code of conduct during online classes, proper utilization of time, study habits & preparation for examinations.

CAREER GUIDANCE

Students from **senior classes** (standard IX- XII) frequently approach the counsellor for enquiries about **career avenues**, **courses**, **admission criteria** etc. They are guided by the counsellor to explore their **career interest** & engage in effective **career planning**. Besides that, **guest counsellors** from the **external agencies** are also invited to conduct career guidance workshop & inform students about the importance of taking career guidance assessments during career planning.

In addition to that, students were also informed (through **poster display, email & Whatsapp messages**) about the **courses offered & career options** in Sciences, Commerce & Humanities, their eligibility criteria, top institutes and universities.

SESSIONS BY EXTERNAL RESOURCE PERSONS

Counselling & guidance programmers conducted by **external resource persons**, well recognized due to their excellence in different disciplines are also organized at our school. Such sessions are conducted particularly for the students in **Middle & Senior Wing** in order to motivate them towards personal, academic, career & character development.

ACTIVITY BASED COUNSELLING: SKILL IDENTIFICATION SURVEY

This **online activity** was introduced in this session for students in Upper Primary & Middle Wing (classes V-VIII) as per suggestions given by our Principal sir .Students were guided to **asses** themselves & **identify** their progress in terms of age appropriate **skill development** with a help of an **unique questionnaire** containing 64 questions. Their responses were **scored & interpreted** by linking the assessed skills to related careers .Finally students were sent a **feedback** about their assessment including activities /habits that would support their age **appropriate skill development**. This activity was kept optional but students were encouraged by their class teachers to take part in this survey .Finally **1224 students participated in this activity. The entire** activity was designed, developed & conducted by the counsellor stage wise as given below:

COMMUNITY WELLNESS PROGRAMMES

Counselling services are also extended beyond the school level . The Health & Wellness club organizes special campaigning programme in the villages near the school to generate awareness among the villagers about general health issues, healthy eating habits ,substance abuse etc . In 2020 , our school in collaboration with the HR Department Jindal Steel & Power Ltd organised wellness programmes for employees & their family members residing in different residential colonies of JSPL. The following aspects were covered in this session:

- Emotional Well-being & Spirituality
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Hobby Development
- Maintaining Physical Fitness