## **Mental Health Day**

"Anything that's human is mentionable, and anything that is mentionable can be more manageable. When we can talk about our feelings, they become less overwhelming, less upsetting, and less scary."

-Fred Roger

World Mental Health Day is observed on 10 October every year, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health. At Ridge Valley School our team of Educators and Wellness experts relentlessly strive to ensure that our children have a happy learning environment and a mindful co-existence in the peer space. This year's World Mental Health Day, on 10 October, comes at a time when our daily lives have changed considerably as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The past months have brought many challenges for students, adapting to taking classes from home, with little contact with teachers and friends, and anxious about their futures.

Addressing this State of Mental Health both amongst children and educators the Well Being Team at RVS in partnership with the Digital Media Team presented a short story in which the senior children enacted the impact that the "new normal" is having upon the mental health of children and adults and how overwhelming the current situation of living in fear, living with unknown and living in isolation is having upon one and all. At the end of the video there was an interactive session during which the children opened and talked about how they are feeling and how they want to overcome this moment of delusion and unpredictability. They came up with suggestions like how physical activity and good family time may help them in facing the current adversity.

At the end of the session children participated in a slogan writing activity on Padlet where they penned their slogans on how they promise to help and heal themselves.









