

Art has the power to transform, to illuminate, to educate, inspire and motivate....

NEWSLETTER

Feb and March 2018



“Don’t cry because it’s over. Smile because it happened.” The News Desk at NPS KRM is happy to present the final newsletter for the academic session 2017-18. While the end of an academic year brings joys of a brighter future, it also brings the sadness of parting ways with friends, teachers and the anxieties of facing the exam. Like all the other years, this year too was filled with innumerable moments to cherish. Looking forward to a stupendous performance from our 10th and 12th graders, who just gave in their board examination. To quote **“Sometimes the questions are complicated and the answers simple.”** Dr.Suess.



MAJOR EVENTS

Meraki

“Meraki 2018- A Montage of Monte-Stories”, held on March 10th 2018, showcased the year’s events and activities at the Montessori. The Audio-Visual room transformed itself into a visual extravaganza, where tiny tots recounted tales of the year that whizzed by. The parents were in for a treat as the students engaged them with interactive games, captivated them with their narrative prowess and offered them mementos as takeaways. The show was highly appreciated for being a perfect blend of student talent and parent involvement. The camaraderie between the students and the teachers received a special mention in the feedback given by the parents.



Market Day

The Entrepreneurship Program handled by the students of Grade 6 provided them invaluable insight into the basics one needs to become a successful entrepreneur. The project was a great learning experience for the young entrepreneurs as every single detail, right from product conception to delivery, was factored. It culminated with the ‘Market Day’ organised in the school auditorium on 10th February, 2018. Most of the products were the creative venture of the students themselves. There was a buzz in the air and the environment was charged with excitement, as children set up eye-catching stalls well in advance and geared up confidently for the advertising and sales. The innovative sales pitch, catchy slogans and attractive banners sent customers flocking to the stalls and the products were sold out in no time. Apart from the handsome profit made on Market Day, the three months long journey of appealing to venture capitalists, buying the raw materials, involving whole heartedly in the production process and finally advertising and marketing their hand made products left the students with a huge sense of accomplishment. The proceeds were directed to charity.



Spin - a - tale

Our young authors from Grade 4 enthralled the audience by ‘Spinning-a-Tale’, through a dollop of ideas, scoop of creativity, pinch of magic and a whole lot of vocabulary. The basic concepts of a plot, character sketch, setting and organizing led to a display of 87 imaginative short stories that parents read and appreciated.



Weaving Hands

The Kindergarten children displayed their creativity and talent at the curriculum based exhibition held on 24th March 2018. The event provided a platform for children to display their talent and confidently showcase their learning through the year. Immersed in their creative world, the little ones animatedly described their work to the visitors, under the guidance of their teachers. Accolades showered in plenty.



Art Exhibition

A riot of colours and an exemplary display of creativity, aptly describes 'The Art Exhibition' held along with Spin- a -Tale. The kaleidoscopic event was the culmination of the art and craft work done by the students through the year. It added to the joie de vivre of the Spin-a-Tale.



Reap Benefit

The students of grade 11, during the academic year, have been engaged in a fun but socially benefitting program as part of their Environmental Education classes in cooperation with the organization Reap Benefit. They learnt basic thinking techniques while developing solutions to some of the problems of a nearby government school. After months of planning, they were equipped with aprons, paints, drills and were all set to make a change. A wrap up session was held on the 9th of February, 2018 in the school auditorium where a video was played showing the students' work. Students spoke about their experiences, interaction, learning and the importance of being grateful in life. The students of our school also received a certificate, the first of its kind in the country, in which each of the 21st century skills activated through the program was reflected. It was a gratifying end to the program.



Achievements

First Lego League India

Ansh Grover 8C along with his team mates, competed for 'First Lego League' from Karnataka region where 22 teams competed and qualified for the National FLL competition.

Junior First Lego League India

Anoushka Grover, student of **3A**, along with her team got selected for Nationals for Junior First Lego League held in Chennai on the same dates.

In the Bangalore Masters Squash Tournament held in February, **Soumya Raj of Grade 10 A** won the second place in the girls under 17 category.

Kurchi Mitra and Neha Sharon Jacob of 11 A emerged as the Runners up in the Bangalore Regional Brain Bee.



Destination Imagination Challenge 2018

A global competition that promotes collaborative problem solving challenges, communication, perseverance and critical thinking saw **Rishi Rajesh of Grade 5 A** along with his team members from other schools sail through the

Regional Level. They will participate in the Global finals to be held at Tennessee in the month of May, 2018. The team had chosen the technical challenge 'Maze Traveller', wherein they had to create a robot navigator that would move through a given random maze, in the allotted time. In addition, they had to create an instant prop transformation, perform an object removal using the Maze traveller, and combine it all using a story line.

The Indian Association of Physics Teachers (IAPT) conducted a series of Olympiads (the National Standard Examinations or NSEs) in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Astronomy in November 2017. **Chinmay SI of Grade 12** received a certificate of merit for being in the national top 1% in NSEP (Physics) and a certificate of merit for being in the state top 1% in NSEA (Astronomy). **Dhwani Ravi and Manish Kausik of Grade 12** received a certificate of merit for being in the state top 1% in NSEB (Biology) & NSEC (Chemistry) respectively.

Chinmay SI and Dhwani Ravi additionally qualified for the second level of Olympiad held on 27th & 28th January 2018 by Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education in Astronomy (INAO) and Biology (INBO) respectively.

They have been selected out of 11 students from Karnataka to participate in the International Orientation cum Selection Camp in Mumbai.

The Times of India recently conducted the Times SPARK Scholarship exam aimed at encouraging students to develop a better understanding of the contemporary society. Students had

to read the assigned articles within a time frame of 3 months after which an examination was conducted, followed by a personal interview. Two lakh students participated across the country out of which 300 were shortlisted for the final scholarship amount ranging between 1 and 2 lakhs. **Kurchi Mitra, Aditya Mishra (Grade 11) and Dhwani Ravi (Grade 12)** were among the 300 national level winners.

Sports Events

The International School of Bangalore held a series of events in the month of February. The achievers under different categories are as follows:

Jay Mehta 9C Badminton Boys 1st Place.

Shreyas Prasanna 9C Badminton Boys 1st Place.

Prithvi Bapna 8 B Badminton Boys 1st Place.

Saksham Gurung 9C Badminton Boys 1st Place.

Anupama R Bagade 8C Tennis Girls 2nd Place.

Ahanya Appaiah 9A Tennis Girls 2nd Place.

Anika N Khandekar 9C Tennis Girls 2nd Place.

Vidya S 6C Tennis Girls 1st Place.

Aarohi Agrawal 8 C Table Tennis Girls 1st Place.

Sinjini Ajay 8C Table Tennis Girls 1st Place.

Rakshak Jain 5C Tennis Boys 2nd Place.

Vansh Aggarwal 5B Tennis Boys
2nd Place.

Rudra Kothiyal 4C Tennis Boys
2nd Place.

Prakash Saran 3C Tennis Boys
2nd Place.



Other Events

SFS

The close of the academic year 2017-18, brought with it the close of a beautiful educational journey for twenty students and a team of hardworking enthusiasts wanting to give back to the society. **'Students for Students'** or simply SFS, was an exquisite joyride well-spaced throughout the better part of the year. In approximately fifteen sessions, a team of students from Grade 7 & 8 took on the unique role of teachers to the Grade 3& 4

students of a local government school. Under the prompt leadership of Mr. Rama Voruganti and his team, the sessions apart from educating children, briefed the 'neo teachers' about the supposedly simple but paramount concepts in rudimentary Mathematics and Science, as well as vital qualities like teamwork, coordination and quick thinking. Every session was an in-depth lunge into the portrayal of these concepts in the simplest yet effective manner of practical experiments and interactive quizzes. The children learnt basic number concepts, water cycle, food chain, sound, mathematical operations etc. It was an out-of-classroom based education in the classroom, really!

To showcase the students learning through the year, a Grand Finale was held on the 9th of March 2018, where separate groups entertained the audience with well-rehearsed skits, poems and speeches. This entire journey has been extremely invigorating, and gratifying as our students appreciated the amount of hard work their teachers put in for the students. A million thanks to the SFS team will not suffice for the eternal gems of wisdom these 'teachers' procured through this cause.

The amount of effort put in by the team to make it a success has been well worth it and the only regret would be it ended far too soon. In earnest wait for the next year, 'Students for students' is an organization, a journey, an experience but more so a blessing!



Ashoka Award Ceremony

Better Plus Schools in partnership with Ashoka Youth Venturers conducted the "Change Maker Awards" ceremony on 20th February, 2018 to celebrate the winners of the Changemaker Challenge 2017-18, a competition organized as part of the Changemaker Education subject for grade 7. The challenge ran for 3 months from November 2017 to January 2018, where students were encouraged to launch changemaker initiatives to solve real-world problems in home, school or their communities. This witnessed the birth of massive 22 different changemaker initiatives by grade 7 students in teams of 4, solving social problems like stopping bullying in the classrooms, educating underprivileged kids, spreading awareness about smoking and even targeted environmental problems like saving household water, planting trees and using environment-friendly detergents.

Through this entire activity, the students had the opportunity to solve real world problems hands-on, working in teams thereby building skills of empathy, team work, creative problem solving and collaborative leadership; the much needed change maker skills of the 21st century. The criteria of evaluation for this Changemaker Challenge were social impact, teamwork, impact measurement and documentation of the work.

The winners were announced in the following categories.

1. Gold Award for 'All-round performance'- Initiative 'Blue Drop' by **Ankita A, Divya N, G V Rashvi** and **Swati N of 7C**, who installed 23+ tap aerators in 11+ households, worked brilliantly as a team and documented their work thoroughly.

2. Teamwork Award for 'Exemplified teamwork'- Initiative 'Let Nature Be Our Teacher'- by **Adhithi NK, Andrina L, Neha C, Sharvari B** and **Shivani GK of 7A**, who worked throughout as a team, delegating responsibility to each team member and making them accountable.

3. Social Impact Award for 'Very high social impact'- Initiative 'Profitable E-waste' by **Aakarsh P, C Satvik, Rishit P and Shreyas P of 7 B** who collected and recycled 570 kg of e-waste and donated Rs 21,600/- received from recycling it. The joint winner was the initiative "APNA" by **Achyuth W, Akshaj B, Nand V, P E Pranav of 7C** who saved more than 3000+ litres of domestic water by installing 65+ tap aerators in 40 plus households.

4. Impact Monitoring Award for 'Measuring and presenting their impact in the most detailed manner'- Initiative 'Waste to Strays" by **Adithri A R, Adrika C, Manjari R** and **Sharduli T** of 7A who fed 28 stray dogs on a regular basis with the help of 80 volunteers and measured the impact of their work in a detailed manner in the final report.

Swati N (7C), Yash P(7C), Manjari R(7A) and Mansi AK (7B) were awarded "Changemaker of the Year 2017-18" award for exemplifying the skills of empathy, teamwork, creative problem solving and collaborative leadership throughout the year in the classroom and outside.



CISCO Outreach Program

The Cisco talent outreach program was initiated in July 2017 as a collaboration between Cisco and other high school students from various schools in Bangalore. **Aniket Sanghi, Aditya Naidu, Kaustubh Roy, Ayush Agrawal, Rajat Agarwal** and **Rajdeep Nag** represented our school. They were given the opportunity to develop any application of their choice over the course of 6 months along with their mentors. They chose to create a public service app which would be simple and effective for the people of Bangalore and agreed on an Ambulance Alert System.

With the help of a simple application, they attempted to create a service which would reduce the time and allow Ambulances to reach their destinations within the crucial "Golden Hour". The app sends a notification of an incoming ambulance to all drivers or anyone travelling within a kilometer's radius of its path. From July to January, the students worked online from home under the able guidance of their mentors. Through extensive trial and error they learnt Java and PHP, gained work experience and gained an insight into the functioning of corporates.

There were time limits and deadlines to meet. They also had several meetings with the Cisco representatives.

On the 31st of January, 2018 a formal project presentation was made to all the participating groups as well the Cisco representatives.

They hope to incorporate this project with the Bangalore police and Hospitals as well in the near future.



TingaTinga Tales

On 16th February, 2018, KG1 culminated the EVS topic "Animal World" by students coming to school enthusiastically dressed in their favourite animal characters and presented their stories with suitable props. The class buzzed with joy and laughter and the children were excited to display the various props they had created with the help of their parents. Children also tried to scare their teachers by imitating the different animal sounds. They enjoyed narrating the story with voice modulation and expression. The confidence and presentation skills of the KG1 children were admirable.



Earth Day

The culmination of the EVS topic – ‘Earth’, was done on 12th Feb, 2018. The children came dressed in the traditional attire of the countries of their choice. They were familiar with the name of the country, which continent it belonged to and stated a few facts about that country, thus increasing their awareness of the world around. What a wonderful way to learn!!



Annadana- A Farm-tastic Experience

The 28th of February 2018 brought with it a scintillating excursion to ‘Annadana’ for the students of Grade 8, an organic farm that aims to revive sustainable agriculture and nurture Mother Nature to her former glory. Located at ‘Singapura’, the students were greeted personally by the founder, **Sangita Sharma** and her team of enthusiastic nature lovers from all over the world. The children tried their hand at making the soil mix, sowing the seeds and

even tasting the fresh hand-picked produce.

The farm was quite modernised in its use of rainwater harvesting pits, drip irrigation, flow form and in house biogas and fertilizer production. The students and accompanying teachers were also given a unique chance to purchase seeds of good organic quality to try emulating the Annadana cause and a taste of fresh chilled juice. The students were briefed on the demerits of inorganically grown and bred plants and the shocking revelation of famous fast food actually being blatant carriers of repulsive preservatives and a storehouse of diseases. The enthralled audience vowed to attempt more wholesome and healthy sources of nutrition. Extremely recreational and enriching, students learnt how Nature is an expectant mother, her offspring being one of the most beautiful treasures.



Inter- House

The **Grade 6 to 8 Interhouse Dramatics event** was held in the form of Pantomime, for the first time ever. The four houses practiced for a period of two months and put up a fantastic show, making the task of judging very difficult. The theme that the participants had to adhere to was "Humour." The Pioneers were the winners, with Voyagers as the runners up and Explorers finishing third.

The **Grade 6 to 8 Interhouse Dance competition** conducted on 13th Feb, 2018 was the Grand Finale of the year 2017-18. It had dance presentations in two forms, Duet and Group.

The Duet competition saw the participants perform a fusion of western dance form, with the **Pioneers** emerging as winners followed by **Challengers** and **Voyagers** in the **second and third place** respectively.

The group performance displayed various social causes, not to mention the dance techniques and finesse. The Pioneers created history, by winning the first place, followed by **voyagers** and **challengers** in the **second and third place** respectively.

The Prize distribution for **Grades 6 to 8 Inter- House Competitions** was conducted during the month of March. The winners were all acknowledged with certificates.



TAGE - School Visit

Shreya from Grade 10 and **Akshaya** and **Yohan** from **Grade 12**, on behalf of TAGE (Towards A Green Education), donated the notebooks made as a part of the Inter- house notebook making

competition. More than 150 notebooks were made by the students. On the 31st of March, these were handed over to the students of **Parikrma Humanity Foundation**, an NGO school which provides the necessary facilities to underprivileged children. The students of Parikrma spoke at length and interacted with the trio and expressed their happiness at having received these books. The initiative taken by the students with the support of the school is truly laudable !!



Class Assemblies

Grade 2A presented their assembly on 8th of February 2018 on the topic 'Peace' which holds utmost relevance in today's chaotic world. The youngsters showcased the importance of peace through a play and an inspirational poem. The highlight of the assembly was a

speech by Mr. Modi and motivating thoughts by Mother Teresa. Students successfully conveyed the thought that “the purpose of life is to be happy and we need to fight against and triumph over the darkness of misery by preventing war at all costs and the most precious of all things in the universe is a peaceful life”



“Space & Other Heavenly bodies’ was the theme of grade 3C assembly held on 1st February, 2018. 'Taare' a Hindi skit presented information related to the stars, followed by a beautiful thought by Stephen Hawking and a poem on Telescope and Milky way galaxy. Information related to space and other heavenly bodies was shared. The assembly concluded with a graceful galaxy and alien dance followed by a group song in English –The Universe.



Grade 2C presented their assembly on the topic “Pay it Forward” on the 27th of February, 2018. The concept was explained through a thought, short skits in Hindi and English, a musical enactment, video and songs. The various aspects of “Paying it Forward” like- helping, sharing and caring, love, kindness, compassion, generosity, charity and sacrifice were highlighted through the assembly.



On 20th of February 2018, students of Grade 2B presented their assembly on the topic “Hard Work to Success”. While the thought emphasized that success never comes around to look for us, we need to work hard to realise our dreams, the Hindi skit portrayed the importance of overcoming challenges. Inspiring life stories of successful Indians were narrated to motivate the audience. The assembly concluded with a foot tapping number.



The students of Grade 1A presented their assembly on the topic 'Summer' on 1st March 2018. The audience was updated with the latest news and treated to speeches, a Hindi skit, dance, English poetry and Western music. The students spoke about the history of summer vacations and various advantages and disadvantages the season brings with it. It was a lively and informative presentation.





The students of **Grade 1B** presented their assembly on the topic "**Winter and Spring.**" The assembly began with a beautiful thought and put forth the reasons on what causes Winter. They then journeyed to Pyoengchang in South Korea where the Winter Olympic Games was held this year and spoke about the Olympic Games and the Olympic motto. The students of Grade 1B showcased how wonderful Winter Wonderland is by dancing to the tunes of "Let It Go" from the popular movie "Frozen". Through the Hindi skit, the audience was transposed to the season of Spring. The assembly concluded with a bang, as the children dazzled the stage with flowers of various colours so typical of Spring!



On 8th of March, **Grade 1C** presented their class assembly on '**Monsoon**'- the season of contradictions. The assembly showcased the beauty of monsoon. It started with a soulful Hindi poem 'Paanibarsa'. The importance of monsoon in India, a predominantly agricultural country was depicted through a collection of songs, skit and dance.



Grade 7B through their assembly on "Education, the panacea for all evils", highlighted the importance of the adage 'each one, teach one.' The assembly appreciated the senior students of the school who were the pioneers of "**Step-Up**" program, which focuses on teaching English to our support staff.



Grade 7C presented their assembly on the topic '**Being Humane**' on 14th February 2018. The assembly depicted different forms of love. It concluded with the message that helping a fellow human being is the most essential aspect of life. A humane person is one who is compassionate and cares for others and tries to alleviate another's suffering.



Rain Dance

What better way to spend a hot summer morning than splash around in water! As a culmination of the EVS topic on 'Water', a fun-filled event was planned for the children of KG-2 on 16th March 2018. The children splashed away with happy abandon in a pool and, danced under the water pipes and enjoyed playing in their swim suits. The children went home elated and ecstatic, already looking forward for the next Rain Dance.

“The first few days and the last few days are the hardest for a teacher. The first day you are starting all over again and the last few, you let go off the year’s progress. What comes in between is the classroom community. Create one and the learning falls in place naturally.” Yes it is that time of the year when we bid adieu to our classroom community and look forward to a bright new start.

HERE’S WISHING ALL OF YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

*From the News Desk
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Koramangala*

