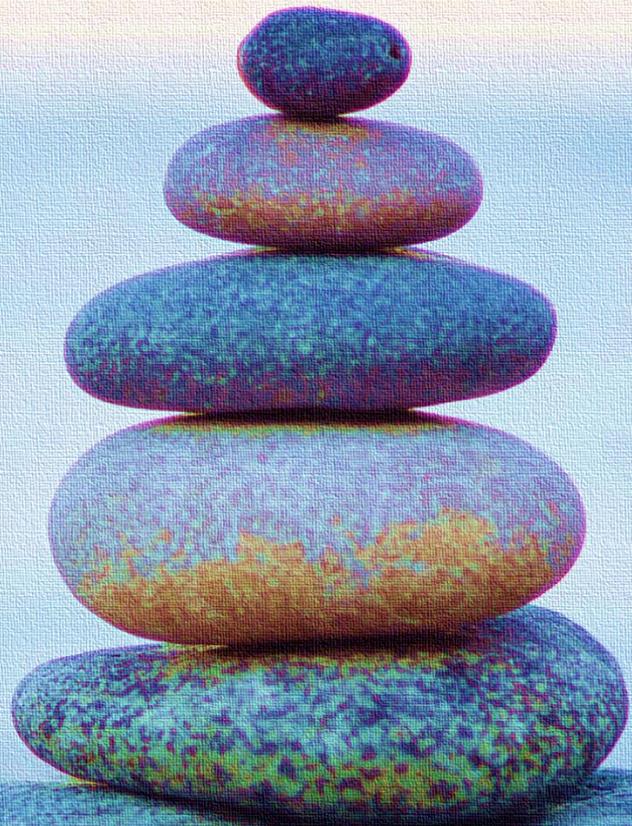


Vrīthi Montessori School



*Annual
Newsletter
2019-20*



From the Directors

Dear Parents,

Greetings! Thank you all for the love and support that you have been providing us throughout this year. We are privileged to have a wonderful parent community with us, which has been the motivating factor to keep the ball rolling.

The unfortunate explosion of the pandemic has turned the entire world upside down. It has made us realize that we humans are not the most important creatures on this Earth. Unpredictable behaviour of this virus has baffled the laureates. Everyone is waiting to hear that this virus can be controlled. We wish and pray that we all come out of this situation safe and sound.

As you all are aware the Annual Concert could not be conducted as scheduled due to the pandemic. We understand that it was a great disappointment for all. The practice sessions that were held helped us understand that the children have been looking forward to this event. The interest, involvement and dedication of our little ones were exceptional. Give any dialogue, songs, dance or assign any role, they will deliver them with clarity. Our hopes are high for the concert in 2021!

Facilitating and guiding children is an on-going professional activity rather than something that can be mastered once and for all through the acquisition of a restricted set of skills. Teachers play a vital role in the effective functioning of Montessori Environments. Teachers' competencies have a potential impact on the children. It needs to be refreshed and developed with the passage of time as new ideas and approaches towards teaching and learning are discovered. This emphasises the need of development activities for teachers to update and enhance their professional skills.

The teachers attended a two-day National Conference called 'Kriya- Purposeful Work, for Self & Society'. Eminent national and international speakers came together to explore the importance of purposeful work in education and how purposeful work not only supports self but also the society as a whole. An in-depth insight, as well as, practical suggestions regarding the same for children across various age groups were given.

This year our Annual Parent Teacher meeting focussed on how concepts are built up in a Montessori environment from the Primary through Elementary, with particular reference to the Concept of Multiplication. All the materials used by children for this concept were shown, throwing light on the direct and indirect purposes of each material. Apart from this parents were invited to volunteer as children and one presentation each from the primary and elementary were presented in detail.

Though this academic year did not have a proper wind up due to the pandemic there are wonderful memories to cherish and new hopes for the upcoming year. The school is shifting to a new locality, Nanmangalam. It is going to be very challenging in the initial years till we get more children, but we are confident that we will pass through this phase and be successful with all your support. There are plans of introducing new programs beyond elementary, but it will take time for it to take shape due to many other external factors. We are working towards the registration of the school for which the time frame cannot be assigned keeping in mind the current situation. Thinking positive, we are up for an adventure!

Looking forward to your continued patronage.

Thanks & Regards,

Directors

Vrithi Montessori School

MONTESSORI THOUGHTS

Freedom of Choice

There is a common myth prevailing that freedom of choice means that children can do whatever they please and there is no such thing as discipline in a Montessori classroom. “Freedom” and “Choice” sounds like an oxymoron, but this is one of the key features of the Montessori Method. Before having a look at how this approach works in the Montessori classroom let us delve into the meaning of these two words FREEDOM and CHOICE. Freedom is basically having the ability to act without constraint and choice is an act of choosing between two or more possibilities. So, freedom of choice allows the children to discover different interests, different strengths and different developmental needs.

Dr. Maria Montessori designed her classrooms with this insight of human nature. In our classrooms, yes, a child is free. They are free to move about, with purpose. They are free to choose any work which is shown to them and use them appropriately. An essential part of a healthy freedom is responsibility and our classrooms satisfy this need. The prepared environment is the key. When the children chooses their own work they are genuinely interested in their learning and this is how they follow their own inner teacher. Each choice they have is constructive, developmentally appropriate and interesting. Initially in the first year of Montessori a child may choose doing a puzzle, stringing beads or looking at a book. Eventually the choices include writing and reading, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with concrete materials.

The free will of each child is gradually being educated. Each time the children choose from a number of objects, those that they prefer to work with, is an act of will. We cannot instruct the will. We cannot help the will to develop by instruction or by demanding that it develop. The will evolves through continuous activity on the part of the children in relation to the environment which is prepared to meet their needs. The will has to be built up by the child’s own powers, through experience. As the will grows stronger and solidifies, the ability to obey emerges. Obedience is acting in accordance with the will of another.

It’s a willingness to accept the will of another and follow the instructions of others.

When the children are able to make choices at a younger age and develop a strong will, they will be able to make correct choices with clarity when they grow older.

This freedom of choice can be structured into the child’s daily life. It is easy and convenient for us to fix a routine, make decisions and then impose these on our children. We want the best for our children, and we believe our choices are the best. But the truth is the power of small choice can go a long way. The choice can be as simple as allowing them to choose an apple or banana for their snack or picking their clothes for a day out. The key is to provide our children with choices that empower them. To do this successfully, we can help the children to channel their energy into positive actions by offering limited choices of activities that they can become deeply engaged in.

Giving a choice every time or way too often can make the child anxious or manipulative. So just look for reasonable times for the little person to have a choice. Giving the child limited options whenever it’s reasonable will make a great difference. But why limits? A real environment always has limits. Children who are able to make a choice can realise the power of their own decision making. Through continued experiences of making choices within limits, the child becomes increasingly responsible.

Taking a Montessori approach at home with choices and limits can help build strong and positive parent-child relationship from the very early years into adulthood. Being consistent with our children is not always easy, but we have time to keep practising and working on it over years.

Developing the willpower is a gradual process and its sensitive period is between the ages of 3-6 years. When we give choices and limits, the result is freedom and responsibility.

FREEDOM TO CHOOSE IS NOT FREEDOM TO DO ANYTHING YOU WANT, BUT FREEDOM TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

Cosmic Education

Between the ages of 6-12 there is an enormous change in the purpose of the child's activity. The child has a new mind, *a reasoning mind and a tremendous power of imagination*. The children in this age group are grappling with the questions that have always haunted human beings. *'Who am I?'* *'Why am I here?'* *'How did everything I see and touch get here?'* *'What will the future bring?'* *'Is it true?'* *'Is it always true?'* *'Why is it true?'* and *'What if....?'* They want to understand how things are related. They are also exploring the world of morality and often worry about right and wrong. They need to know the reason for everything they see, hear and experience.

Their questions put adults at their wit's end. It seems easy to simply force the child to stop questioning and learn what we adults consider useful for them. But in doing so, we also destroy their spontaneous interest. Learning then becomes tedious and boring!

This is where Cosmic Education comes to our help. This is not merely a method designed to impart knowledge, nor is it just a series of exercises for the children to master skills. There are deeper roots; philosophical, ecological and moral.

Cosmic Education relates to a way of seeing and understanding the universe, our world. The universe has all the answers for the questioning mind. Everything in the universe is integrated and inter-related. All things no matter how great or how small, living or non-living, have a place and a purpose in the maintenance of the whole.

The universe is not stagnant. *There is law & order, diversity, harmony & balance, interdependence & co-operation, untiring work, active response to challenge and adaptation which lead towards perfection.*

The Universe is maintained by every single thing that exists called as cosmic agents. Cosmic agents work tirelessly, act in specific ways, transform the environment and create conditions for adaptation. While apparently satisfying their own needs they do a task for the good of the others around them.

Humans are special cosmic agents. We can create what was not there before. We are agents of transformation. We are also conscious agents because we can choose in what way we will adapt and how much we will collaborate with nature and each other. None of the other cosmic agents have this choice.

This is what we want the elementary children to experience and understand. We want them to realise that there is *a web of service in nature in which something that an agent does to ensure its own survival provides other agents with exactly what they need to survive. There is no grading. All service rendered to the environment is important and necessary for the perfect functioning of the universe.*

The most important cosmic task of humans is uniting of all humanity. History is the dawning of human consciousness and Science brings us the knowledge needed to understand the universe. The different activities of humans have slowly been bringing different cultures together. This is only made possible by one great invention of humans - language

Each child represents new hope for humanity because the child is the transmitter of culture and language.

The Curriculum

The curriculum is the Universe, its inhabitants and their stories and not lessons from books to be listened to in a sequence, memorized, tested, and graded.

- 💡 *Geography is the story of the earth and its coming into being through the following of laws.*
- 💡 *Biology is about the coming of life to preserve the harmony of the world.*
- 💡 *History is the story of human beings who came to fulfil the cosmic plan set in motion at the time of the creation of the Universe.*
- 💡 *Language is one of the stories human beings have written themselves; an achievement of the mind of man that allows for communication of ideas.*
- 💡 *Mathematics is a language of numbers to help support inventions.*
- 💡 *Music and Art are other languages of creation of ideas and an expression of the spirit.*
- 💡 *Science is an invention to perfect the environment and the economy to satisfy the physical needs.*

The curriculum is so broad that the lesson plan is to sow the seeds of knowledge. The intellect is not merely a sum accumulation of knowledge. It is the mental structure for organizing knowledge.

The driving force that has been moving us forward, are undoubtedly our parents!

Letters from the heart!

Dear Vrithi - Would like to share our experience with Vrithi in a small note for this newsletter.

Vrithi Montessori School – Experience

- We are associated with Vrithi for more than 2 & half years. When we approached Vrithi, we didn't have the knowledge/ were not aware of what a Montessori methodology of learning could offer a child
- Our experience started with the Orientation session for parents, where we understood how the environment works and how it would benefit the children. Right from there, we are witnessing the progress of our child and dumbstruck with the outcome. Vrithi is one of its kind among the Montessori schools
- We are truly inspired by the way in which school functions. There is a lot of planning behind all events and is also executed flawlessly. All the teachers are well experienced and help the children to identify their strength
- Vrithi has inculcated many qualities like self-discipline, logical reasoning, ability to think and work independently, conceptual understanding, handling work in an organized manner among all of its children
- Children work for their satisfaction and are not focused/worried about the outcome of their experiment. Vrithi doesn't concentrate just on academics. The children are involved in a lot of extra curricular activities and also exposed to the life skills
- We are extremely happy rather proud that we have offered our kid the right learning environment and strongly believe that Harini would come up with flying colours and the lessons she learnt would have an ever-lasting impact in her life.

Thank you. Wish you all success and would like to continue this journey with Vrithi for

successful years.



Regards,

Harini's Parents

We are very happy to be associated with you. You have never failed to encourage us after every event. Amidst the pandemic breakdown that had just started, you were the only parent to ask us if there will be concert practice on Saturday. We know, you sure were excited and eagerly looking forward to this event!

We are excited and look forward to many more wonderful years with you.
Thank you parents!

What are our little ones up to during this lockdown?

(Curious like the ghost tarsier)



Snippets

The ghost tarsier is one of the most curious animals on Earth!

They live in the forests of Indonesia, Borneo or the Philippines.

They are very small, although the size of their eyes is striking, almost 16 millimeters in diameter , an exact measurement of their own brains!

*They live alone and are usually known as **spirits of the woods**.*



Craft by SP. Ananya

Lockdown has affected the Barbie world too...

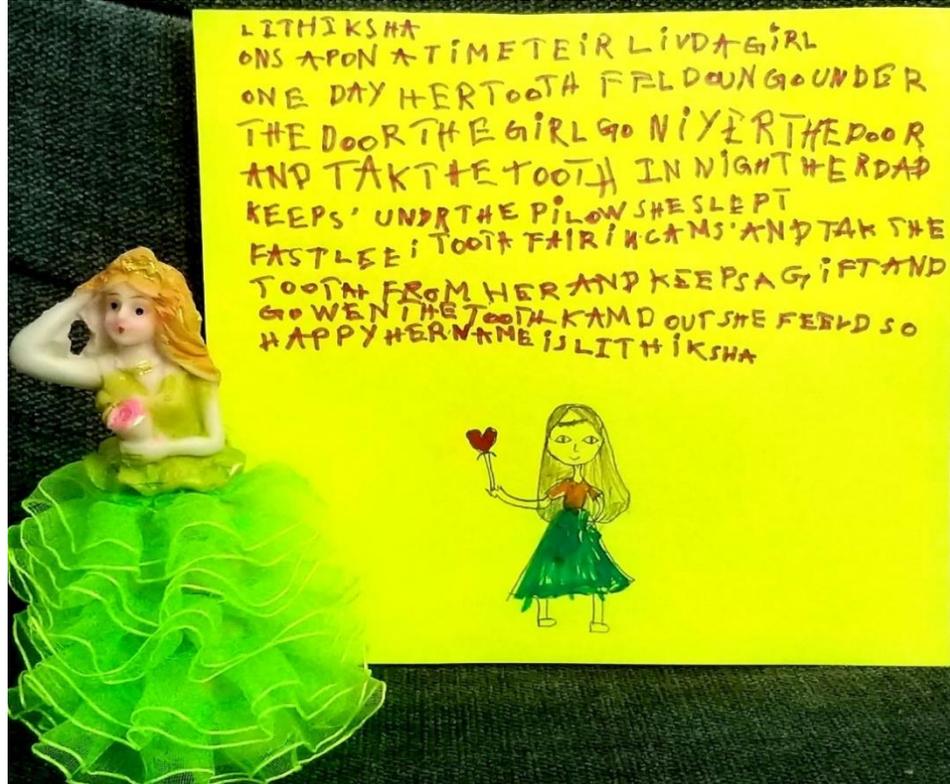
Thoughtful Ananya has set up a living room with books for Barbie, as Barbie cannot go outside now!!!!



Story Writing

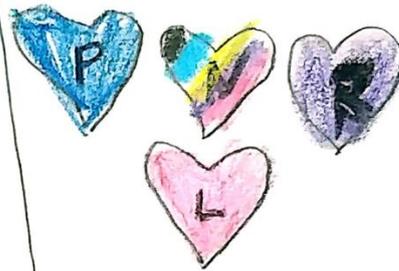
Author: Lithiksha

For all those who are waiting for Tooth Fairy!



LITHIKSHA - PRIMARY

I LOVE MY
 FRIENDS,
 I LOVE
 MY TYACHERS!
 I LOVE MOM &
 DAD WITH FRIENDS,
 IS MY FAVREIT UNOTAVEOL
 ST THE FOTO



A peek into Anikaít's ingenious work!



Fill the blank spaces with numbers so that every row, column and box contains numbers from 1 - 4. Don't guess, use logic instead!

1	3	2	4
2	4	3	1
4	2	1	3
3	1	4	2

4	3	2	1
1	2	3	4
2	4	1	3
3	1	4	2



1	3	4	2
4	2	3	1
3	1	2	4
2	4	1	3

4	2	3	1
3	1	4	2
1	4	2	3
2	3	1	4

Wonders by Sathurvel...



The Dinosaur world of Nunvel



Craft



Raksha's Rapture!

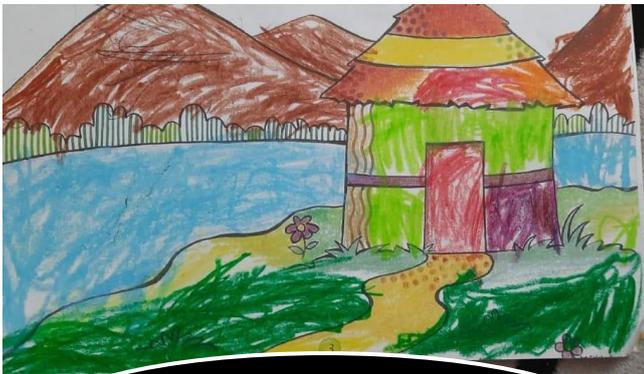


Alphabet art

Paper art



Birthday Greeting Card



Landscape Art



Peacock Art



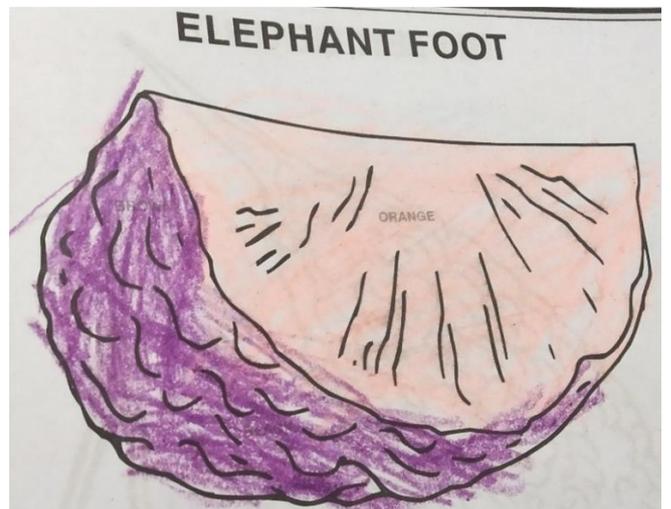
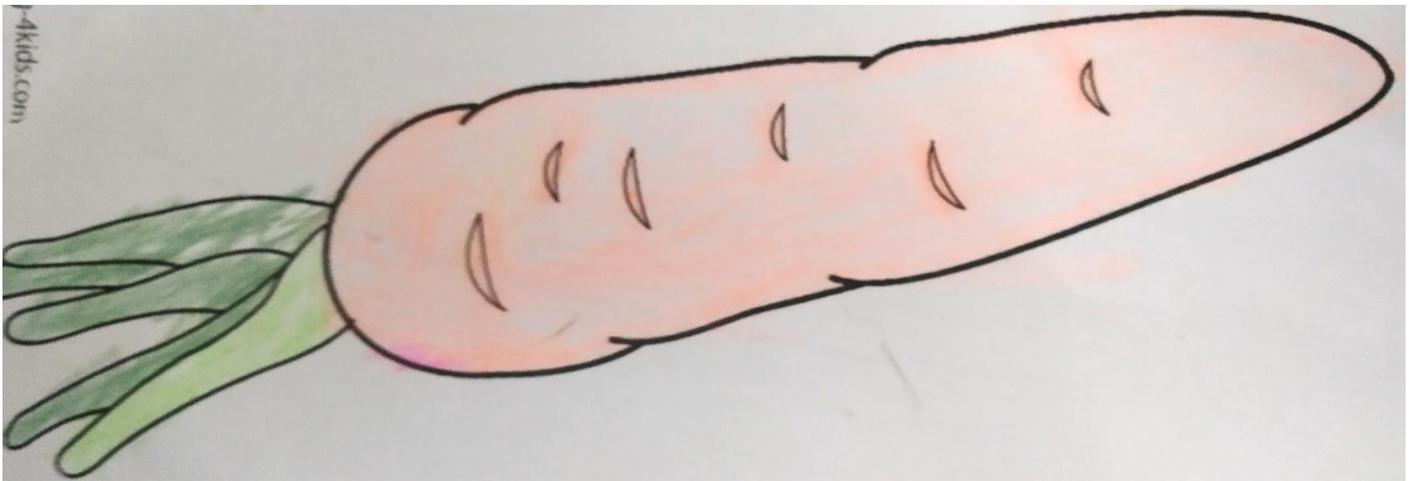
Modern art

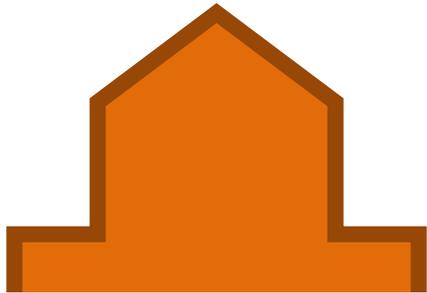


Envelope Making

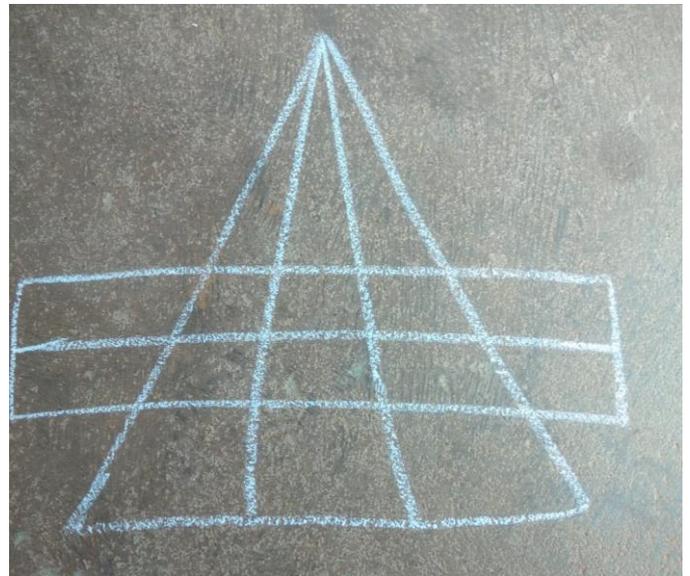


Artistry by Shanav

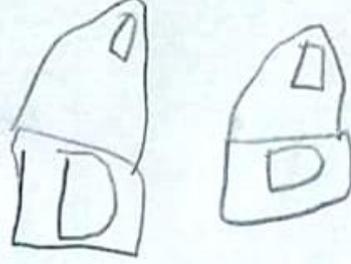
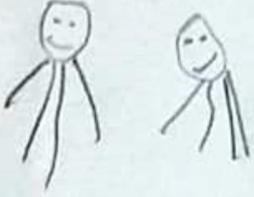




Trying her hand in simplified version of our grandfather's game (Paanchaankaram), which is predecessor to Tic-tac-toe, Chinese checkers, and chess. Quick moves, outwit opposite player, think ahead about the moves and retrospect what could have been done differently at what stage. She loves playing with her mother.

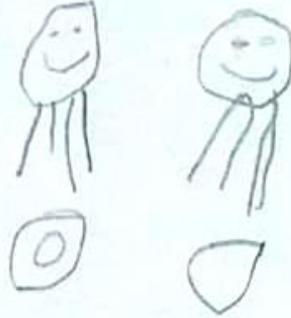
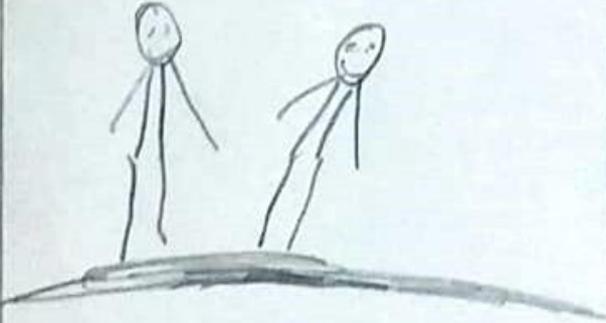


கட்டி குட்டி கதை



இரண்டு நண்பர்கள் இருந்தார்களாம்.
 இருந்தவங்க பேடு கட்டி.
 இன்னொருத்தவங்க பேடு குட்டி.

அவங்க வீடு பக்கத்து பக்கத்துவ
 இருந்துச்சாம்.



இரண்டு பேரும் சேர்த்து
 விளையாடுவாங்கலாம் எல்லாம்
 சேர்த்து பண்ணுவாங்கலாம்

நிளவும் காலையில் கட்டி தோண்டி
 சாப்பிடுவாங்கலாம். குட்டி குக்கீ
 சாப்பிடுவாங்கலாம்



From Inba's mother:

Stories - She has told me the story and drawn it herself. I helped her to bring it on paper and written the story told by her.

Craft work - She has cut the images and coloured it.

I helped her in pasting the work.

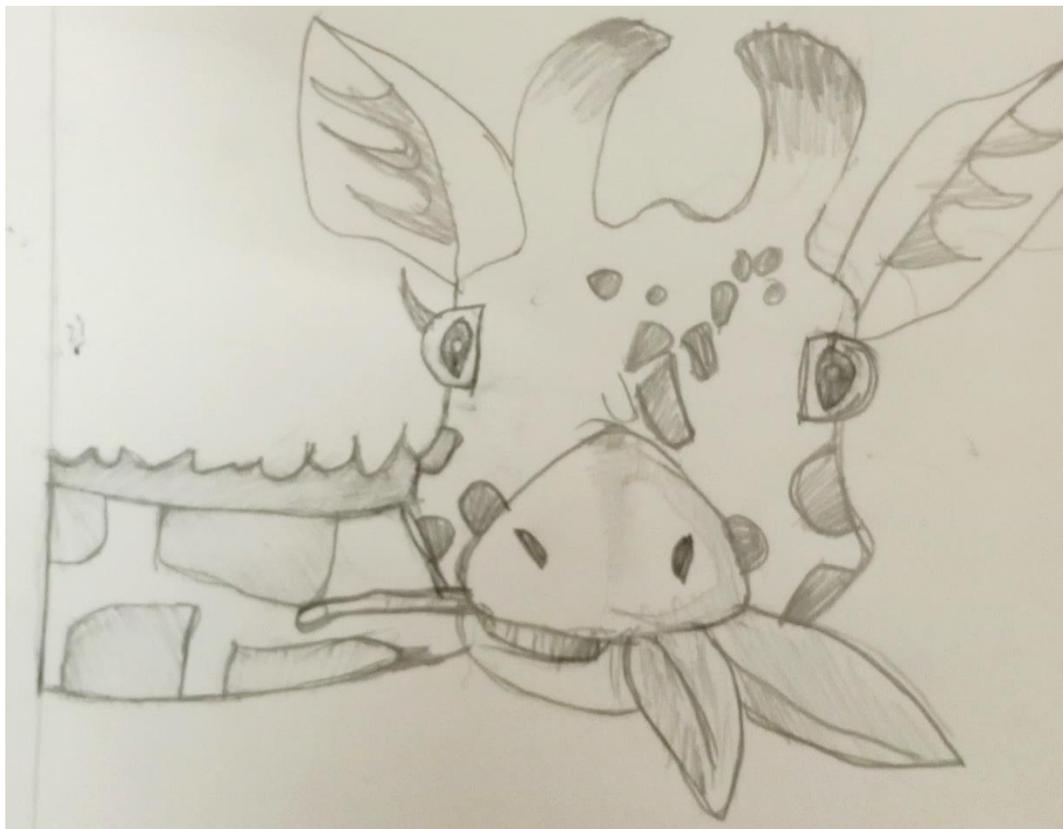


Simply Colourful





*I did a
few
drawings
in this
holiday.
-Akshadaa*





4	5	2	7	1	3	6	8	9
5	6	3	8	9	5	2	1	4
1	9	8	6	4	2	5	3	7
7	3	4	5	6	8	9	2	1
6	1	5	9	2	4	8	7	3
8	2	9	3	7	1	4	5	6
9	4	1	2	8	7	3	6	5
3	8	6	1	3	9	7	4	2
2	5	7	4	5	6	1	9	8

*Also couple
of Sudoku
puzzle!*

6	1	7	8	9	2	4	3	5
8	9	2	3	4	5	6	1	7
3	4	5	6	7	1	2	8	9
5	8	3	9	1	4	7	2	6
7	6	9	2	3	8	5	4	1
1	2	4	7	5	6	3	6	8
9	3	1	5	2	7	8	6	4
2	7	8	4	6	9	1	5	3
4	5	6	1	8	3	9	7	2

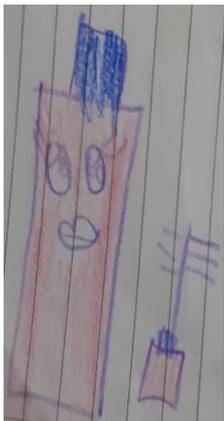
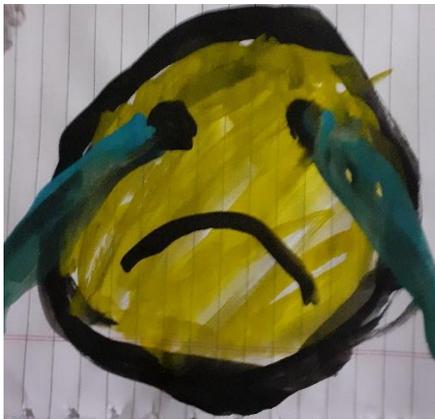


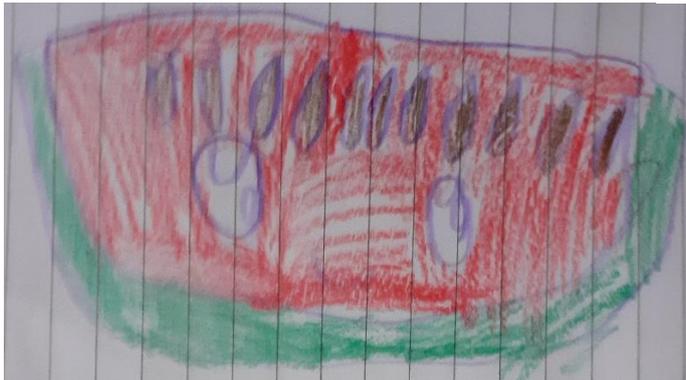
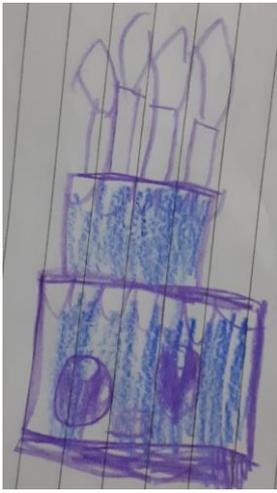
SDU-25

60x60

Minutes	Seconds
60	3600

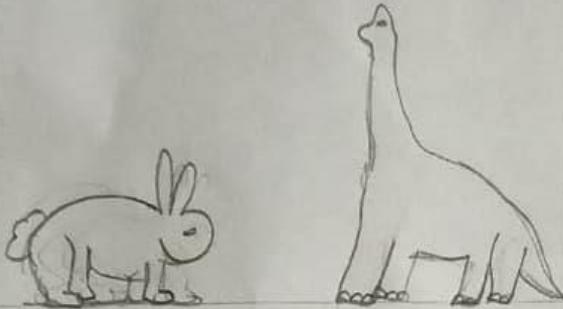
Unlimited art by Jessica



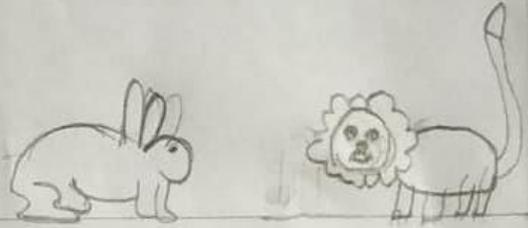


Picture Story

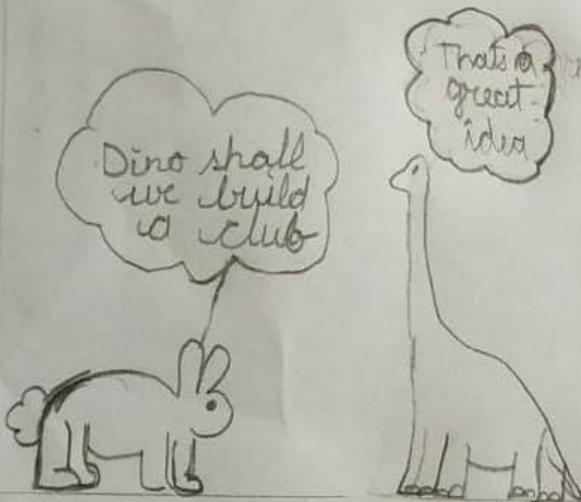
1) Once upon a time there was a rabbit and a dino. They were best friends.



4) One day the rabbit saw a lion trying to catch him.



2) One day the rabbit said



5) So the rabbit went inside the club.



3) At last we finished making the club.

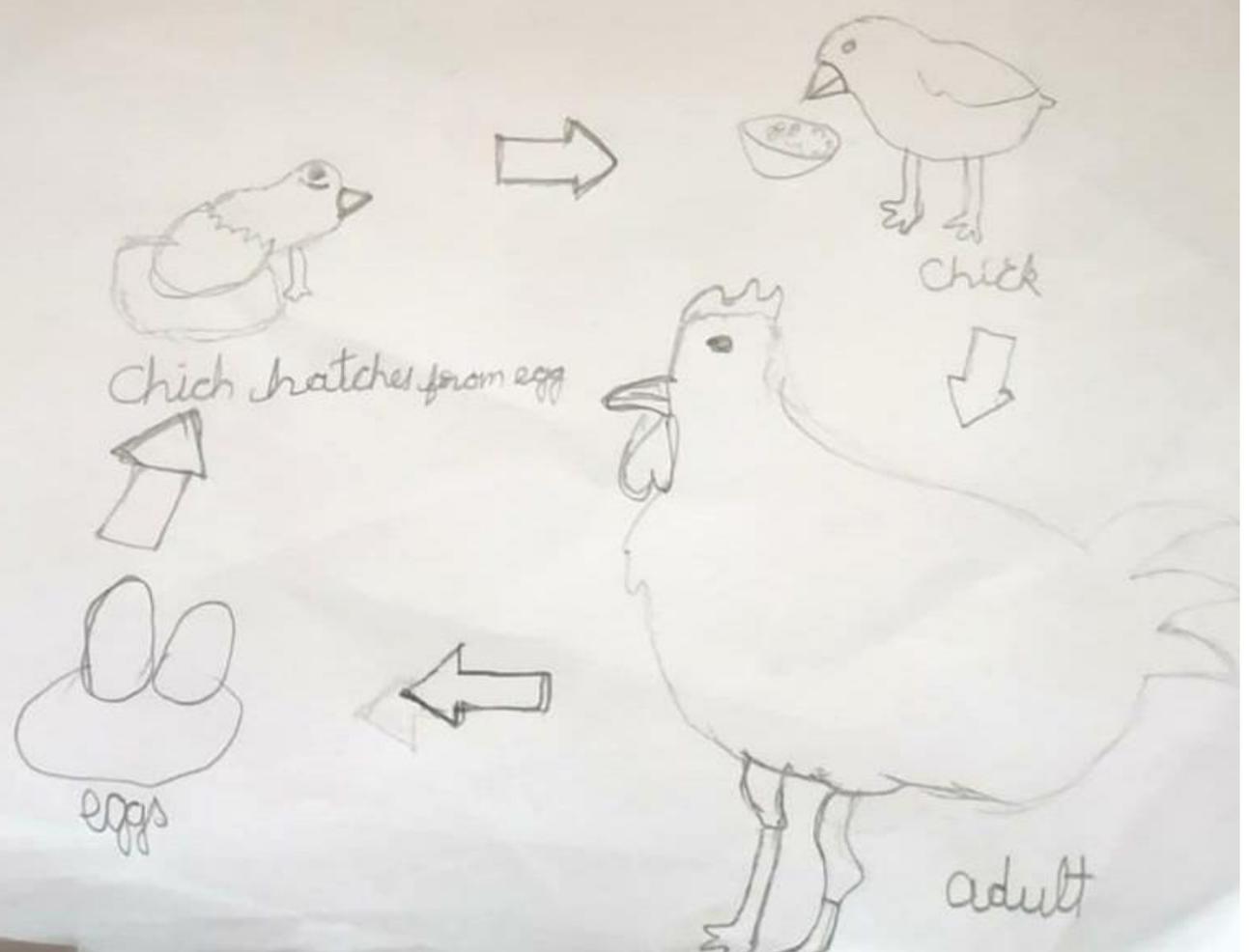


So the lion said



Animals that lay eggs

All birds reproduce by laying eggs. The parent sits on the eggs to keep them warm. The baby develops inside the egg and after a brief period of incubation the egg hatches.



Poet - Tarun

Popcorn!

Pop, Pop, Popcorn

Popping in the pot!

Eat it while it is
Hot!

When I eat popcorn

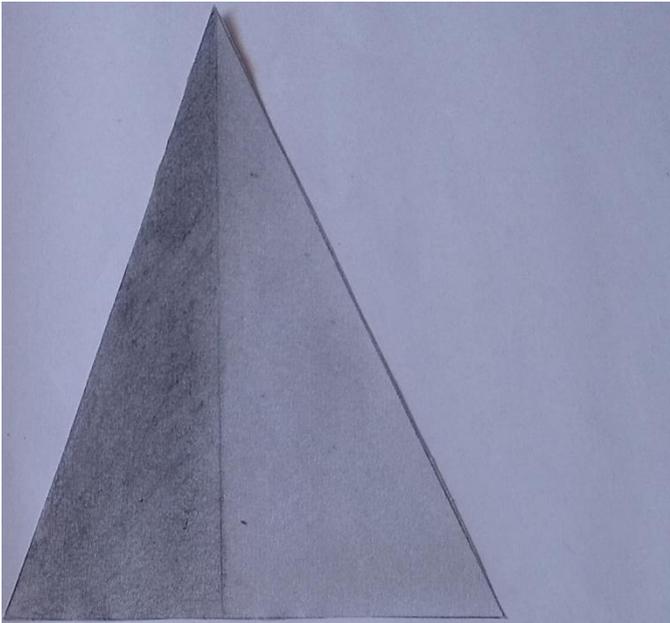
I can't stop!

By
Tarun

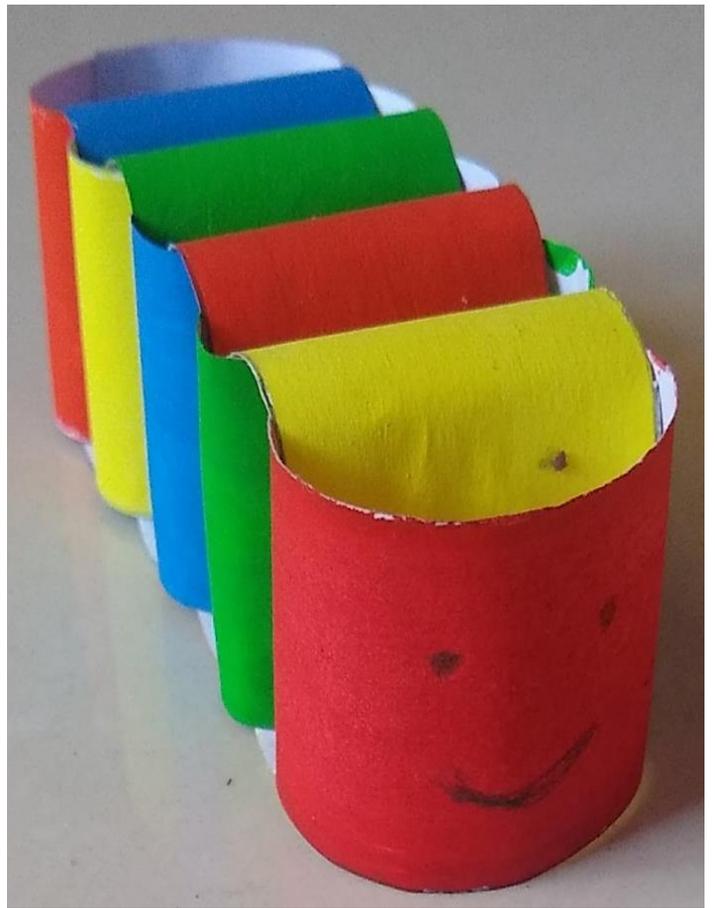


CS Scanned with CamScanner





PyraMid
By Tarun



Sl. No.	Country	Capitals	Population
1.	Argentina	Buenos Aires	45,195,779
2.	Bolivia	La Paz	11,634,067
3.	Brazil	Brasilia	212,559,417
4.	Chile	Santiago	19,076,535
5.	Colombia	Bogota	50,751,145
6.	Ecuador	Quito	17,309,682
7.	Peru	Lima	32,859,413
8.	India	New Delhi	1,387,297,452

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Art by Dheraj





The Moon

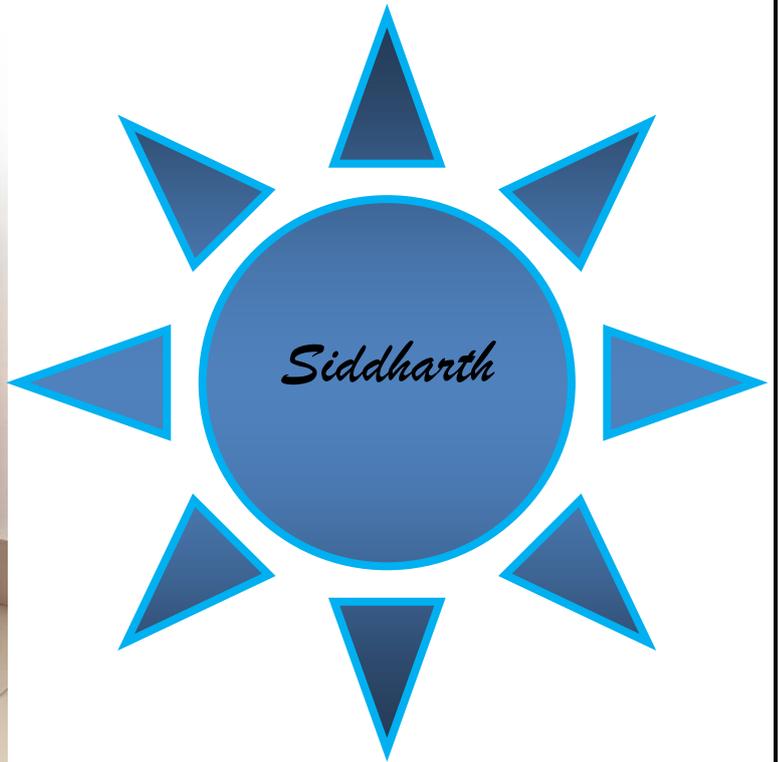
The Moon is the brightest object in our night sky. On some nights, the moon looks like a huge shining circle of light.

On other nights, it looks like thin silver fingernail. But the moon does not really change its size or shape. And it does not make its own light. The light we see comes from the sun and bounces off of the moon.

CS Scanned with CamScanner



Business Math



From the Father: Siddharth was provided a tiny provisional store setup and learned about addition / subtraction by selling pulses and Grains

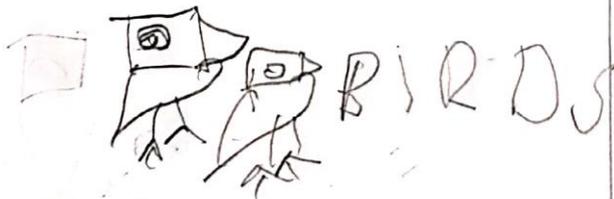


From the Father: He learned about living things and non living things through teaching, videos and writing exercises. He learnt about the properties of Living things / Non Living things with the objects /toys available at home. He used to take each toy/object and classify it as living thing / Non living things with reasons. He was able to successfully classify things correctly after several trial runs.

DO YOU KNOW?

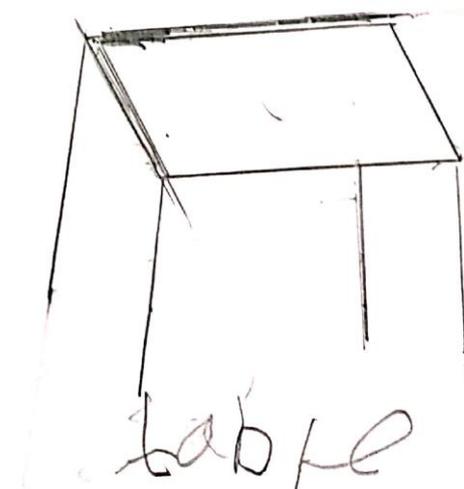
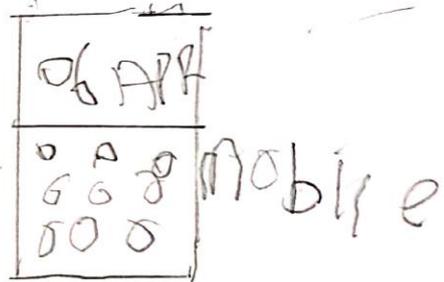
LIVING THINGS

- 1) can grow
- 2) CAN BREATHE
- 3) CAN move
- 4) CAN Eat
- 5) can reproduce



NON-LIVING THINGS

- cannot grow
- cannot breathe
- cannot move
- cannot eat
- cannot REPRODUCE



MISCELLANY

1) Identify a fruit from the following options:

a) PPALÉ

b) PLEAP

c) APPLE ✓

d) ALEAP

2) Form a meaningful word from OOBK

a) KOOB

b) BOOK ✓

c) BOKO

d) KOBO

3) Form a meaningful word from CLAA

a) PLAC

b) CLAP ✓

c) CALP

d) None of the above

4) Which musical instrument that can be formed from MDRU?

a) UMDR

b) MURD

c) DRUM ✓

d) UURD

Tutty Ewity Brownie

In my brownie project Siddharth was my partner, I had lots of fun.

Our brownie name was Tutty Ewity and stall name was Borfruit Stall.

We sold each brownie for Rs.50.

We sold 59 brownies and one was left.

Totally we got Rs.2050. My profit was

Rs.137. I put my profit into my

piggy bank.

CS Scanned with CamScanner

- By Tarun

Brownie Experience

On 12/12/2019 on Thursday was my brownie making day. I brought ingredients such as Choco chips, rainbow sprinkles, milk, 20 packets of cream biscuits and condensed milk. My partner Santhosh brought milk. He also brought Sunflower-oil and 3 packets of cocoa powder. When we were making brownies there were three ovens but we used 2 ovens. Then we wrapped the brownies in Ziplocks. We sold 1 brownie for 50Rs and 2 brownies for 100Rs. When we were selling brownies many people came and bought the brownies. Totally we baked 60 brownies and we got 3000Rs. Profit was

Brownie Sale Report

Date of Baking	Bakers	Stall Name	Brownie Name	Order Received	Quantity Baked	Quantity Sold	Loss	Reason
09.12.19	Tarun & Siddharth	Borfruity Stall	Fruity Brownie	36	42	41	1	Unsold
10.12.19	Akshadaa & Shanjeev	AS Brownie Shop	Gummy Bear Brownie	194	198	194	4	Baking error
11.12.19	Dheraj & Srivanth	Brownie Star	Rainbow Brownie	37	42	42		Forgot to collect money for 1 brownie
12.12.19	Nishaanth & Santhosh	Winter Stall	Super Star Brownie	58	60	60	-	-
13.12.19	Rakshith & Jessica	Bright Stall	Choco Gem Brownie	56	60	60	2	Baking error

Accounts

Stall Name : Borfruity Stall
 Owner : Tarun & Siddharth
 Brownie Baked : Fruity Brownie



Total Number of brownies baked = 42

Total Number of brownies sold = 41

Amount spent on buying ingredients & packing material = Rs.1676.00

Cost of 1 brownie = Rs. 50.00

Amount earned on selling 41 brownies = $41 \times 50 = \text{Rs.}2,050.00$

No. of
unsold
Brownie: 1

Profit = Rs.374.00



Reminiscences

Annual Sports Meet

07 September 2019

The Annual Sports Meet was very special this year for 2 reasons. The first being that the occasion was graced by the Chief Guest, Dr. Rohini Rau, and the second being that it was held at a private venue- Apps Eden Sports Academy. Amidst the on and off rains during the rehearsals, the sports day was blessed with bright sunshine.

Perseverance and tenacity are often the foundational traits of success. When these are combined with dedication and teamwork, the result is outstanding. Together, the children put on a spectacular display of courage, hard work, skill and brilliance during the Annual Sports Meet. Sports and athletics have been an integral part of Vrithi. Keeping up the tradition, this year too, Annual Sports Meet was organised with the same flamboyant spirit among students, an opportunity to display their physical prowess, and gain hands on experience of organising a sports-meet at a school in years to come. Apart from commemorating victories, sports meet also aims at imparting lessons on camaraderie to children.

The torch bearing ceremony was introduced this year. This was a very scintillating moment for everyone. The event commenced with the march past followed by torch bearing. The champions of the previous year proudly held the torch and the torch relay was held.



The torch bearers were Harini, Nunvel, Anikait, Hanisha, Dheraj and Tarun. The chief guest declared the meet open soon after a well- co-ordinated drill by the primary children. The primary and the elementary children together did stunning pyramid formations. Silambam and Lezim were a visual treat. Track events, skill race, obstacle race and group games were conducted. The track and field event included several races such as 25m, 50m, 75m, 100m and 200m. 4X20m relay race for different categories was introduced this year. The obstacle race was hurdles and the skill race included ring the cone, back drag, hoop walk, cone and ball transfer, ball throw, ball drag and jump and hoop throw. All the events saw a zealous performance.

Parents too participated in the running race and proved that they are young, energetic and sportive!

Prize distribution was held for both children and parents. We would like to notify that there was an error in the prize distribution of Venba and Sanjay and our sincere apologies. Venba had secured second place and Sanjay had secured third place in the obstacle race. The above prize distribution was planned to be held in the Annual Concert. Unfortunately, the event had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. Looking forward to a suitable opportunity to give away their hard-earned medals.



Talking of vegetables, it was time for lunch. Each child got to make their own pizza from scratch. They rolled out the dough, spread the sauce, used three fresh vegetable toppings of their choice and topped it with cheese. This was baked in a stone oven. Some interesting combinations were seen coming from the young enthusiastic chefs! There were two appetizers served along with the pizza.



After a short rest following lunch, coconut tree climbing and broom making were demonstrated. The children tried their hand at weaving the coconut leaf into thatch and enjoyed drinking the farm fresh tender coconut water.



Finally it was time for the dairy section. Each child got a chance to milk a cow. Each one of them turned out to be experts! The entire process of making paneer from milk was demonstrated and not to forget the tasting of the freshly made paneer! This was followed by a demonstration of butter making and tasting.



At the end fresh hot banana muffins were packed for the return journey, a perfect way to end a day full of adventure and discoveries in a farm.

Every visitor gets noticed!

Every day when we open the school gate we always look out for visitors in the steps. There was this turtle which did not disappoint us. It was carefully placed in a bucket and kept till children came to school. Some children were too excited to see and touch it. And we had some children who started crying.



The other day we had Selvi akka bringing in a special visitor...An African Giant Snail!



There was also a baby bat found which had fallen off from the plantain tree of the neighbour's compound. We also had this kingfisher fly into the elementary environment one fine day.



Apart from these, grasshoppers, dragon flies, millipedes and preying mantises are regular visitors who kick off various interesting discussions. Every time we show them an animal children ask a lot of questions about their food, where it will live, when will it sleep, why it came to school, where will it go, etc.

The brave ones (which are almost all the children) touched them and felt its skin!
All the animals were released safely into the outside environment.

Thank you!

We will be back next year!

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