THE BANYAN TREE WORKSHOP

When Harvinder Didi is around, we Diyas, are always treated with pleasant surprises from her. We look forward to her surprises as, not only do we have a good time but those are always unique learning experiences. During her last visit, we, the English teachers were treated with an English, creative writing workshop on December 16, 2015, at the Old Banyan Tree, a few kilometers away from the hustle and bustle of the city. The sprawling four hundred year old banyan tree was not only our subject of creative expression but it also witnessed our day long writing and sharing of thoughts. It was a wonderful experience. Below is the day's creative outcome of Gayathri didi.....

After much wait we headed to our destination and reached the arena of exploration. It was an amazing sight to see the enormous, huge banyan tree.

Issue 17, April 2016

Right at the entrance of the gate, we walked through watching the century old tree standing grandly and majestically. I was wondering where the main trunk of the tree was, the roots all tangled and plugged deep into the soil reminded me of human nature, thoughts, feelings and emotions so deep into our minds that cannot be changed.

The tree symbolized family and branches symbolized descendants who grow in different directions, but our roots



keep us all together. Going further more I spotted roots that resembled a face with shabby hair as though it had wondering thoughts and was in a world of confusion and chaos.

This majestic tree was also a home for a number of birds and insects. Troop of monkeys camouflaged to the tree showing that this was their area and that no one could disturb them or bother them.

After a long stroll, I sat down and looked around, the boundary of the place separated me from the world that has lot of duties, responsibilities, chores to be done and the attachment to the worldly desires, but here I am detached to the world, living in my own thoughts and no boundaries to my freedom.

The chirping of the birds, moving vehicles, people talking, swaying of the wind, shedding of the leaves, everything had a rhythm, but the old banyan tree stood still watching the movements and sights around it, conveying that silence is the best moment that one has in life.

- Gayathri (Teacher)



Children celebrate life. At AMIS, we wanted to celebrate them on their special day by adding magic and fantasy. Every child dreams of meeting a cartoon character. So we planned to turn their dreams into reality. The children were elated to see the sight of Mickey Mouse who stood by the gate and warmly welcomed them. They were ushered to the hall which was decorated with balloons. They were entertained by a diya who was dressed as a joker. The children laughed at the silly acts of Joker.

The diyas sang a beautiful song, to which the children hummed along. They cheered as dance didi performed a special dance for them. Their excitement reached the pinnacle when the Magician asked them to say 'abraca dabra gilli gilli gu', whenever he whirled his wand. The children were in awe when they saw him bring out a dove from his hat, join bits of paper without glue in a second and perform many other tricks. The children returned to their classes feeling special and joyful.





On November 9, 2015, primary class children embarked on a day trip to Shuka Vana, Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary and Balmuri Falls. Though the weather had been playing foul for the last few days, we started our journey with prayers and hopes in our hearts.

Our first stop was the Shuka Vana, which is a rehabilitation centre for birds in the serene premises of Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashrama. Here the children were excited to observe numerous rare and colourful species of parrots from the world over. They were also overjoyed to see a deer and a fawn, in the premises.

Our next stop, which was also a lunch stop, was at Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary. After a hearty meal, we ventured on a walk inside the sanctuary. The children were thrilled to spot clusters of white egrets on tree tops and their excitement knew no bounds when they spotted a crocodile on a stony isle, in the middle of the water body! They spent considerable amount of time, observing the crocodile, tracking it's movements. It was difficult to pull ourselves away from this beautiful natural habitat of birds, but finally we boarded the bus, looking forward to our next destination and the last stop of the day.

After a short drive, we arrived at the Balmuri falls. With strict instructions to children, to be cautious, we walked to the bank of the falls. The water lured us all but we managed to convince our children and our-

selves to stay away from it. We soaked in the cool breeze and the gurgling sound of running water and walked back to our bus, only to be welcomed with badam milk, tea and onion pakodas. Finally we boarded the bus to return from where we had started.

Throughout the day, we had been receiving messages and calls from diyas at school and well wishers that it had been raining hard in Bangalore. We, on the other hand were blessed with a pleasant weather with a cool breeze and no rain at all!! A care free day with fun and laughter and beautiful locales, topped with a perfect weather... what more could we have asked for our day out?!!







Hours, days, and weeks of practiceand finally came the day which our children and parents had been eagerly waiting for. The stage was all set to unfold the budding talents. The Celebration Day was presided by Harvinder Didi, Yamini Didi and Rajinikanthji.

The children harmoniously welcomed their audience with a melodious song. The evening looked more vibrant when the little angels of the Pre Primary spread their magic by dancing to peppy numbers. The tiny tots with their adorable dance moves, colourful costumes and props were a pretty sight. Some of the children from the Primary section captivated the audience with powerful songs like 'Ekla Cholo Re' and 'We are One'! The others won accolades and applauses from all, when they danced gracefully to the tunes of 'Barso Re Megha Megha', 'Chhota Bheem' and other meaningful and devotional songs.

On the whole, the day was the fruit of many hours of tireless work and effort of our children and diyas. Parents were overjoyed to see their children perform with confidence.





of nursery rhymes, bouncing up and down in their seats.

"Rain rain go away.. come again another day..."

Tiny tots singing this rhyme must have helped, for this was a perfect picnic day. Friday dawned bright and clear with no signs of misty clouds and rain.

The Pre primary (LKG & UKG) picnic to The Cubbon Park-Bal Bhavan on 27th November, started at 9 am. The children were so excited as they boarded the bus with their didis and aunties. Following a bus ride that can only be described as singing

They reached the picnic spot by 9:45 am. Immediately after breakfast the students were taken to the swings. There were many swings ,see-saw, slide etc. The kids enjoyed their ride on the toy train which started from the mini railway station and passed through a small tunnel. This ride was definitely among their favorite parts of the picnic.

The picnic ended, when they all boarded the bus with fond memories to be cherished and reached school by 1:15 pm. The little ones will surely cherish this memory forever as it was their first school picnic.





This year's Sports Day or AUROLYMPICS was celebrated and cherished on February 6th 2016, with a theme of Swachh Bharat. On this beautiful sunny and bright day, the school grounds were marked with tracks and decorated. The Primary children had their events in the morning while the tiny tots had theirs in the afternoon. The event was inaugurated by Harvinder Didi and Rajanikath ji by releasing multi-coloured balloons in the air.

The day's events began with a loud beat of the drum and the announcing of the arrival of the groups by the comperers. Our children smartly marched to the beats, displaying and inspiring parents with various innovated ideas to recycle, reduce and reuse waste, in order to generate less waste.

The march past concluded with the oath taking ceremony by one of our senior children. Then began the series of races, starting with the individual running race, followed by the group races like the stone balancing race, tower building race, races which displayed the strength and perfection of the children and many more. Parents and diyas applauded the sportsmanship shown by the children.

In between the races, there was a drill and an incredible gymnastic display by some of the children of grade one. The children's flexibility, strength and balance left us all awestruck. Finally the morning's events concluded with a Yoga performance by the children of grade two and a song by the choir children.

In the afternoon, it was a joy to watch the tiny tots march to the beats of the drum, displaying various things that their diyas had made out of waste materials, to spread the message and inspire all to reduce the generation of waste. Their tiny feet tapped gracefully, as they performed the tambourine drill. They awed their spectators with their flexible gymnastic moves. In the group races they showcased equal zeal and sportsmanship.

The children's spirit throughout the day was infectious and at the end of the day, it left the parents with smiles on their faces and fond memories that they would cherish forever.









Display day brings forth creative ideas and helps to explore different ways to exhibit a concept. The children were thrilled to display their knowledge through experiments, drama and rhyme. The text book illustrations came live when parents experimented with real weighing scales, measure volume with cans and buckets. Science display allowed parents to observe transpiration of plants, experiment with fruits which float and sink, soluble and insoluble materials and magnetic pick -up. Overall it made everyone realise how Science is a part of almost every phenomenon that we come across in our daily lives. The children were excited to display

to their parents, science behind some day to day activities that they perform.

Likewise, for the Maths the children, with the help of their diyas displayed how we could see things around us, 'Mathematically'. During the practice sessions, the children were excited to drop their text books and go around the campus, measuring various things. They were intrigued to see how concepts that they had learnt and practiced with numbers had real use, all around them. They presented to the parents, 'Campus Maths' and proudly showcased the 'Mathematical' knowledge of their campus.

The Campus also came alive with the display of glimpses of the children's 'joyride' in AMIS that the campus has been witness to. It was a pleasure to share with the parents some of the memories that we have created with their children, during the year.

Some children were sent as envoys who happily drummed and announced about the English and Hindi plays. Parents were surprised to hear "Should English language be punished or acquitted" and were eager to be the live witness of the case. Parents laughed when each victim brought forth their grievance against English in their vernacular language. They were surprised to learn that words like "*Jungle, thug, catamaran, teak, bandicoot, coir, cot*" were derived from Indian language. When the Judge asked the opinion of the live jury the parents expressed that English language should not be punished for it has become a global language.

The theme for Hindi display was 'trees'. Interactive corners were set up where parents were asked to solve riddles and 'varg paheli'. Parents enjoyed listening to children recite Hindi poems. Interesting facts about Hindi language captivated everybody's attention. Children dressed in colorful costumes enacted a skit and conveyed the message, "Trees are the most valuable natural resource and we need to join hands to conserve them for the larger benefit of the society".

For the Sanskrit display too the children put up a small skit and at the same time helped the parents learn the Sanskrit form of some commonly used objects and words.



The Pre- Primary displays were a visual treat. The Nursery and the LKG classrooms showcased the artwork of children in beautiful zigzag books. The Chrysanthemum and Petunia group displayed a scene from the jungle with a bird nest on a tree, snakes, caterpillars and lady bugs proudly moving around. The aquarium at Pentas and Tulip group attracted the viewers. The family portraits were beautifully displayed on the handmade frames of children. The children smartly explained to parents the story behind each craft. The parents listened intently to the children and appreciated the real looking spiders hanging from the web, peacock spreading its feathers, owl hanging from the tree, sheep grazing, snails crawling, flowers and paper bags and many more, in the Jasmine, Champa and Gladiolus groups.



The field trip was a fun learning experience for kids. The most awaited part of the field trip came when the bus came to a halt at the Post office. The kids were taken to the section where they could see the postmen sorting the post. The post master explained the kids how the mails are sorted after they receive. They all got to stamp the post office seal on a sheet of paper with date and post office name. This memory will remain with them for a long time. They learnt how the mails from the Post office are sent to different places and finally reach our door step.

The next stop was at Nilgiri super market. They were amazed to see exotic vegetables and fruits. One of the child commented 'it's junk food' at the snacks counter. We moved to the billing counter and were surprised to see how Math is applied to everyday life.

Our next top was at the Police station. The officer at the station greeted the children. He explained how they can call for help in case of emergency. The children saw real gun, handcuff and jail cell. They could even touch and feel. Some were thrilled and few were hesitant. The children learnt the importance of these places and appreciated the service of the workers.

LALBAGH

We took our little explorers to Lalbagh to explore different varieties of trees and flowers. They were amazed to see Palm tree bearing fruits in bunches. The clock with seven dwarves and lilies around was an interesting halt. It was a treat to the eye when they saw so many different varieties of roses. We visited the lotus pond and were lucky to spot a water hen. They were eager to visit the lake which was filled with beautiful water lillies. We went to the Glass house where beds of Petunia welcomed us. At the end they happily returned to the bus carrying back memorable thoughts.

Star Creative Edge organized an inter – school art competition, in AMIS on September 18th, 2015. Fifty children participated and



expressed their creativity through colours and imagination. They had been given themes like 'A Festival', 'Nature',

'Cartoons' etc. and they had to come up with their own creations. We were thrilled and felt proud of them when the results were announced and Gargi from the 5th standard and Mishanth from the 3rd standard won the Third prize. Four children, Charumathi, Deeksha, Saaketh and Vainavi won consolation prizes.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

The 18th International Science Olympiad was held in AMIS on November 5, 2015. There were forty - six participants from Classes 1 to 6. Three children qualified for the second level. At the school level, Six children won the Gold medal, Four children won the silver medal and Two children won the Bronze medal.

MATH OLYMPIAD

The 9th International Science Olympiad was held in AMIS on December 10, 2015. There were 46 participants from Classes 1 to 6. One child qualified for the second level. At the school level, Four children won the Gold medal, Three children won the Silver medal and Two children won the Bronze medal.





Dear parents,

We have come to the end of this academic session. With your cooperation, support and patience during turbulent and happier times it has been possible for all of us to have achieved this small step towards a bigger goal.

Let me take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those who helped both the teachers and students enjoy a fun filled journey laced by beautiful moments which all of us will cherish for a long time.

Wishing you all a happy vacation, assuring you that in the meantime we are striving towards perfection, so that you have a smooth year ahead. Before we bid adieu to this academic session, I would like to draw your attention to the information given below so that you don't miss out on anything !

Closing day of the school - 7.4.2016 Re-opening for the next session - 6.6.2016 Orientation for new parents - 4.6.2016 (Morning) Orientation for I std parents - 4.6.2016 (Noon) Details will be sent later by mail Distribution of books - 8.6.2016

Happy holidays!

Warm regards, Yamini Headmistress.