On 15th December 2018, AMIS celebrated its annual sports meet ‘Aurolympics’ with great vigour and excitement. The day gave every child an opportunity to discover his/her talent in the field of sports and filled each one of them with a feverish energy to perform to the best of their ability. Harvinder Didi declared the sports meet open and released colourful balloons with a placard announcing the sports meet. A brisk march past was led by Varun of Class VIII accompanied by Cinchana of Class V. Every class formed a contingent and marched past the dignitaries led by two class representatives. Children excelled in the 50 meters and 60 meters races and put on show their best performance in the 50 meters shuttle relay. Some interesting team races like "Young Santa", "Chopstick" and "Beads Pattern" were designed to sharpen neuromuscular faculties besides enhancing the physical strength of the participants. The drill display named "Reflection" presented by students of grade V used two vibrant colours Orange and Blue to represent the lighter and darker side of life and the same colours also adorn the school logo. "Variations in sound" presented by students of grades 6, 7 and 8 and "Colour the sky" presented by grade 4 were other displays thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Children showcased their flexibility, strength and coordination in the mesmerising displays of Yoga, Gymnastics and Hooping. Parents in the audience were thrilled to see the sports skills of their children and encouraged the participants with thunderous applause. Children were awarded appreciation certificates for their excellent performances. The day marked an important milestone in the school life of children, who put to test their values of team spirit, endurance and healthy competition and needless to say passed with flying colours.
At a glance, it may seem like another Sports day where children are geared up for their races and drill displays but a closer look will reveal the contribution of sports and games in the holistic development of a child. Games pose a challenge to the player and bring out his/her inner strength which builds character and stamina. Buddha declared “To keep the body in good health is a duty, otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear”. The Sports day was a manifestation of this belief. In addition, children of UKG and second grade reflected the quality of coordination and team work in their drill displays.

The nursery children proved their speed and skill in their group races. They dashed to the finish line dressed as cute furry bunnies in the ‘Bunny race’ and jumped till they reached the grapes in the ‘Fox and the Grapes race’. Every little effort counts was the mantra of LKG children as they set themselves to the task of stacking boxes to resemble a house in their ‘Building the house race’ and put on the paraphernalia of a clown and raced to the finish line in the ‘Clown race’. Children of UKG overcame hurdles beautifully in ‘Puzzle collectors’ and ‘Bottle trail race’. The first graders displayed the different creative ways of using a hula hoop in their races. The paper cup which is otherwise considered a mere kitchen object was put to great use as a vital component of the team races by second graders. At the successful culmination of the Sports day what stood out was the spirit of sportsmanship which foregrounds fairness, ethics, respect and a sense of fellowship with one’s competitors.

**Celebrating Land and Culture**

On 2nd November 2018, Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated in Auro Mirra International School. The school ground was decorated with red and yellow coloured buntings to mark the colours of the state. Students participated in the programme enthusiastically and revealed their talent in traditional dance performances and songs. Children were overjoyed to watch their teachers perform a folk dance and belt out popular Kannada songs. The art teacher’s spot painting of one of the pioneers of Kannada literature, Kuvempu, left the children spellbound. Yamini didi’s speech on how learning Kannada could help one appreciate the culture of Karnataka better inspired the non-Kannadigas to strive harder to learn the language. It is impossible to understand a culture without having some form of understanding of its language. The two are always connected. Learning a language is therefore learning the behaviour of a given society and its cultural customs. Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations revealed the essential features of the culture and ethos of the people of the state.
Remembering Chacha

Children’s day at Auro Mirra has always been one of the most anticipated events of the year. Children await it with bated breath and a great deal of excitement for the surprises their teachers have in store for them. The day gives teachers an opportunity to entertain children with their incredible performances. Teachers lived up to the expectations and put up a great show. The celebration started soon after the morning assembly and went on for about an hour. A dance performance from the pre-primary teachers kick started the show. They presented freestyle dance moves to a fusion of classical beats which was thoroughly enjoyed by children and set the tone for the rest of the day.

It was followed by a delightful duet composed and sung by teachers which conveyed tidings of great joy and best wishes to children on their academic journey.

The skit followed next. A team of diyas portrayed hilarious classroom situations and amusing student-teacher interactions so convincingly, it managed to tickle the funny bone of everyone present in the audience. Students could relate to every scene of the skit and roared with laughter every time the teacher was left exasperated with the wisecracks of children in class.

Next was a classical music rendition by one of the music teachers and as music flowed, the art teacher set himself to the task of sketching a portrait. As the two performances unfolded simultaneously, children were enthralled by the sweet melody and were equally excited to see whose face would be revealed as the sketching neared completion. As former president APJ Abdul Kalam’s face took shape and became clearer, children were thrilled to the hilt.

A chirpy Goan dance by a group of primary teachers came next and drew loud cheers from the children. Reserved for the last was a solo singing performance by the music teacher which had children crooning along and tapping their feet to the lively music. They were left spirits in high spirits after the last song. A little surprise at the end of the programme was a fun game between students and the admin staff which was thoroughly enjoyed by the participants.

The programme ended with Yamini didi’s insightful speech where she wished children the best of everything and appreciated teachers for their efforts.

Christmas with Santa

As the year comes to an end, the joy of Advent season fills the air around us. So was it at Auro Mirra as Christmas celebrations kicked off on 21st December.

Children were dressed up as elves, reindeer, angels, shepherds and kings befitting the Christmas theme. The message of the season was conveyed through a skit which portrayed the birth of Christ and the import of the celebration. The choir sang a few enchanting carols and the programme concluded with Santa’s arrival. Children laughed and enjoyed watching Santa dance to Jingle Bells. They also relished the plum cake which shouts aloud Christmas more than anything.