

# AURO MIRRA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



## BUBBLES

Issue 23, April 2019

### Celebration day



The evening of the most awaited programme of the year, Celebration day, was finally here on 1st Feb 2019. Undoubtedly, it was a delight to watch all the parents, grandparents and diya's beaming with anticipation and joy as the little champs took over the stage. Children from nursery Chrysanthemum group opened the show with an energetic dance. Children from nursery Petunia group joined hands and danced to portray their unity with an apt dance number "We are all in this together". A marvellous fashion show of all the fairy tale characters by children of UKG Pentas group brought the most

iconic stories back to life. Children from Tulip group looked wonderful in their floral costumes as they danced to celebrate the beauty of nature. Children from UKG Champa group took everyone through the celebrations of the rural folk following a bountiful harvest with their upbeat Tamil folk dance. A glorious melody in Bengali by children of UKG Gladiolus was greatly appreciated by the audience. Children of UKG Jasmine group enjoyed themselves grooving to a Telugu folk dance. Children from grade 1, Marigold and Rose group entertained the gathering with a foot-tapping clown dance routine. Aster group children evoked love for Lord Krishna through their graceful dance. Second grade, Calico group performed a Goan folk dance and reminded everyone of the simple life of the fishing folk. Grade 2, Spathiphyllum group sang an English song "This is me" which strongly advocated everyone to embrace their flaws and love themselves with all their shortcomings. The evening came to a close with a super Mexican dance from children of 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Daisy group. The Celebration day turned out to be one fabulous evening enjoyed by parents, teachers and children.







On the 2nd of February 2019, students of Auro Mirra International School were all geared up to put up a spectacular show to mark the Celebration day of the year. The boundless enthusiasm and excitement among children on this evening was palpable. The grandeur of the celebration was increased manifold with a new location that accommodated a bigger stage and better seating facilities. The theme of the year was cultural confluence and the cultural events commenced with a Kathak dance beautifully choreographed and impeccably performed by girls of the fifth and sixth grades. It was followed by students in the sixth and eighth grades displaying their unique and masterful juggling skills in the most entertaining way. A little musical interlude brought in by students of the third, fifth and eighth grades was quite refreshing as they sang about the bliss of friendship. An exuberant Gujarati dance performance by the third graders gave the audience a glimpse into the vibrant culture of Gujarat. The English skit modelled on the popular sitcom 'Mind your language' was a humorous Indianized take on the travails of an English teacher who has to deal with the creative interpretations of the English language by fellow Indians. An Indian fusion dance by the fifth graders followed next which demonstrated the popularity of Indian music and dance forms among the global audience.

A mime act by third graders threw light on the vices and corruption that have crept into our lives and society in the present times and encouraged the audience to take the path of right. The cultural celebration reached its climax with the portrayal of the magnificent Dussehra celebration at Mysore. Different folk dance forms of Karnataka were displayed by students of the fourth grade with great precision, coordination and zeal. It included Dolu Kunita, Kolatta and Hulivesha among many. It was an enthralling act. The audience enjoyed every bit of it. This show was indeed a spectacular display of talent and the result of immense hard work. The entire school participated whole heartedly towards the success of the Celebration day and got a chance to perform in front of a large audience.

The mega success of this evening was made possible by the relentless efforts of the students and the staff. The audience was visibly impressed with the impeccable performances put up by students across different grades.

### **Parent Enrichment Program**



An interactive session with parents to encourage Kannada learning among those who are non Kannadigas was the objective of the PEP session conducted on 23<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019. Parents were introduced to a visual representation of Kannada alphabet called "Varnamala" and then verbally taught how to pronounce all the 49 letters by way of some fun filled activities. The participants were asked to recognize the alphabets on placards and string two or three letters to make Kannada words. Participants were also introduced to 'Kagunitha', the advanced set of

alphabet. Parents enjoyed this lively way of learning Kannada.

## Exhibition Day



The preprimary exhibition day held on 2nd March 2019 was the most awaited day for students to display their creativity and talent. Preparations for this day had begun since July and parents were excited to see what their wards had been working on. Brightly coloured zigzag books representing various craft work done by children during the academic year was on display. A hungry caterpillar, a furry bunny and a colourful parrot all born out of paper attracted the attention of spectators. Birds shaped from clay, paper cups, honeybees made out of paper plates, polar bears assembled from cotton balls and Christmas trees designed out of chart paper were a few of the wonderful exhibits.

The glass doors and windows of classrooms were painted

in various shades to add to the resplendent displays. The display of a beach scene included the use of actual sand on which could be seen lobsters, made out of toilet roll, crawling. There were also oysters made of paper plates with tiny thermocole pearls enclosed in them. A quintessential beach restaurant completed the scene which had chairs made out of paper cups. On it were seated cute dolls awaiting their food orders.



Hanging from ropes across the ceiling of a classroom were kites made from colourful origami sheets, bordered with ice-cream sticks and flourishing a tail made from crepe paper. The kites sported freehand drawings by children. Items made from materials that are cast away as rubbish was indeed inspiring. Plastic bottles were converted into zip pouches, newspapers into photo frames and holders and old shoe boxes into brand new shopping bags. Painted bottle caps were now tiny fish with fins made of pencil shavings swimming across the softboard. Fathers were excited to see handkerchiefs which read "I love you dad" and mothers were eager to wear anklets made by their children. The fridge magnets and freehand drawing of children on pebbles received the admiration of everyone.

Poetry, Project and Tabla presentations by children left the audience enthralled. A song on fruits, a Sanskrit poem on chirping birds, a Hindi patriotic song and a Malayalam poem on trains were all performed expertly by children.

On the same day, a few primary classes also exhibited their work. Students from class Hydrangea performed a play by Shahid Anwar called 'Sabzpari's Jaltarang'.

This lively play intermingled fantasy and reality with rib-tickling humour to establish the importance of a clean environment. Besides putting up a remarkable performance, students had also worked on the props and costumes of the play.

Students from class Allamanda very enthusiastically transformed their entire classroom to look like an underwater world. For a year, they had been working on making 2-D and 3-D artwork on the theme of the underwater world. In addition to transforming their class, students also narrated a story. The story was 'Putul and the dolphins' by Marian Karim. The story struck a universal chord by highlighting the empathetic relationship people share with nature when their everyday lives are so closely linked with each other.





Children from Calendula group sought to create a scary escape room around the theme of dinosaur horror. Rightly so, children had to begin working on their sketches on dinosaurs to decorate their class. Although many were known dinosaurs, children also worked on creating their own imaginary ones. For the final performance, each of them dressed either as a dinosaur or a scary creature and hid in the nooks and corners of their classroom. The room was also darkened for an added scary effect. The task for the audience was to navigate the room and get out of it having met all the dinosaurs.

Students from class Dayflower worked in various groups. Each group designed an activity that needed to be completed either in levels or within a time frame. The activities ranged from reading to obstacle games and cognitive games. The audience moved from one group to another. The groups worked with a simple purpose to show how much fun one could have while still absorbing a lot of learning.

Students from Pereskia group chose to work with the theme 'Mythical Creatures'. As part of which, each child had to write an original myth and create their own mythical creatures. Soon, the individual stories were integrated to create a larger mythical story with its own mythical characters. The story was called 'Guardians of once upon a time'. The sketches of mythical creatures were later converted into shadow puppets.

Students from Raintree group chose to work on stories for children around their age group. They began by referring to books they liked and to various kinds of illustrations in children's books. Some chose to work on comics while others chose to work on illustrated books. They began by working on a draft story, building on characters and scenarios and slowly into its final completed form. They worked independently on the story and illustrations and presented a final book.

Exhibition day is a great platform for students to express themselves creatively. It ensures the active participation of every child and the final performances are the rewards that children give themselves.

### **Primary picnic**



The morning of 10<sup>th</sup> January ushered in a bunch of enthusiastic students ready to embark on their journey to the Big Barn Farm on Bannerghatta Road, which was the chosen venue for the primary picnic for students across grades 1 to 4. They were accompanied by Yamini Didi and their respective class diyas.

A sense of elation filled the air as the excited students sang songs and chatted happily with their friends in the bus all through the way. Upon their arrival at the venue, the students were given a warm welcome by the Big Barn Farm team. Students were divided into four groups for a spree of activities, led by the two team members and accompanied by their diyas.

After a sumptuous breakfast, all the four teams headed for their activities. Students were taken for a nature walk, where they saw many beautiful and medicinal trees and plants like lemon, papaya, cotton, kadamba, champa, orange trees etc. Students were made to touch, feel and smell leaves, fruits and flowers and were informed about their significance. Next, the students were taken to see some farm animals and birds like turkey, geese, ducks, rabbits, sheep etc. Children were delighted to pet some rabbits and turkeys and just couldn't get enough of it all! This was followed by a tractor ride which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Post lunch, students were taken to the cow shelter, where the right procedure for feeding cows was demonstrated. Students followed this procedure and fed the cows some fresh fodder with great care and affection. The next activity was the very thrilling rock climbing which was first demonstrated by the team leader and then executed by two students, assisted by the leader. This was followed by gardening where students sowed seeds. The last activity was everyone's favourite, it was time for some games in the play area.

The students were given a fond farewell with milkshake and biscuits by the Big Barn Farm team. It was a day well spent at the farm, which brought children a step closer to mother nature, while ensuring a whole lot of fun at the same time.

### **An experience like no other**



A two days trip to God's own country, Kerala, was organized for children of grades 6,7 and 8. It was the most anticipated excursion of the year as children were crossing the borders of Karnataka to expose themselves to a new place, its picturesque sights, unique culture and exciting experiences. On the first day, children had to make a long trek to the Soochipara falls and were huffing and puffing by the time they got there. But the effort was all worth it, for as soon as they reached the spot, the sound of the cascading water and the sight

of a pristine waterfall rejuvenated them all. Furthermore, as they stepped closer to the rushing falls, the light sprays of water that touched them wiped away all signs of weariness and sent a quick thrill through everyone. An adventurous jungle safari through the Mathunga forest was next in the itinerary. This safari ride was as exciting as it was unnerving. Children waited with bated breath to spot some wild animals but the possibility of also running into a tiger sent a chill down their spine. They spotted many wild animals and birds and could not stop talking about it even hours after the safari. The next day included a strenuous climb to reach the Eddukal caves. The climb was quite challenging and children had to spend every ounce of their energy to get to the top. But nonetheless, they made it and were eager to learn about the life of the people of the prehistoric times from the carvings on the rocks. It was followed by a visit to the Pookode lake and a walk along its length. The enchanting lake and the majestic mountains overlooking it were a sight to behold. The soothing and serene ambience of the lake turned the exhaustion of the morning climb into a memory of the long past. A night view of the Banasura dam was a unique experience in itself. As the trip came to an end, children realized travelling was as much about learning as it was fun. They learned to be responsible while staying away from family and to be judicious with spending money. The trip may have ended but it had given them a treasure trove of memories to last a lifetime.

### **A day with stars –Field Trip to Planetarium**



Grades three to eight visited the Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019. It was a lovely sunny day, perfect for a field trip. The planetarium housed a science centre for students to enjoy some educational activities and to popularize science among them. As the show started, children were in for a pleasant surprise as the theatre darkened to simulate a real night sky. An absolute black backdrop made images look sharper on the screen enabling an overwhelming starry sky above viewers. The sky soon made way for the outer space as stars, planets, comets and asteroids came into view. The visuals were accompanied by matching narration and music. Children really enjoyed the show which

elucidated anecdotes, scientific facts, cultural aspects and the history associated with the celestial bodies. Students left the planetarium enriched with a lot of knowledge about the glittering world of stars.

## Revisiting the grandeur of the past



The long-awaited trip to Lepakshi materialized for a group of facilitators on the 12th of January 2019 who had the privilege to visit this historical site with their mentor Harvinder didi. The trip was undertaken to give teachers a hands-on experience of the Integral Project Approach. Teachers had done their background research on the historical, architectural and mythological significance of the place and couldn't wait to get to the destination to corroborate their reading.

As teachers entered the temple, they at once began sharing information they had collected. The first sculpture to greet the team was the three-legged dancer at the entrance. As they proceeded, the team was welcomed by the various avatars of celestial beings with their musical instruments sculpted artistically

on the pillars. These sculptures were placed at the Natya Mandapam, where gods were believed to have created divine melodies.

The fresco on the ceiling had contrasting colour schemes and depicted various stories. The finest of mural paintings from the Vijayanagar dynasty adorned the ceiling bringing alive stories from the Puranas. The huge fresco of Veerabhadra in the sanctorum before the main sanctum was an art work beyond everyone's imagination, the attention to detail in the fresco was truly commendable.

One couldn't miss the hanging pillar amongst the beautifully carved pillars. Teachers tried to check the gap between the floor and the pillar by sliding their dupatta from one end to the other. A walk past these architectural marvels transported everyone to the world of myths and epics associated with every nook and corner of the temple. On stepping out, the team got busy taking pictures of "The Giant Nagalinga and the Ganesha".

The unfinished Kalyana mandapam narrated the story of Lord Shiva and Parvati's wedding. The rows of pillars next to it had beautiful patterns carved on them. The popularity and relevance of the art work was strengthened by the fact that even up to that day designers visited the temple to seek inspiration for traditional sarees designs.

An old champa tree ageing gracefully amongst the stone structures was a beautiful sight and its shadow provided immense relief from the blistering heat of the day. A visit to the monolithic Nandi was the next stop. The enormous structure sat gracefully overlooking the kurmasaila (tortoise shaped hill) temple. The Nandi attracted the visitors for a selfie.

A salute to these wonderfully skilled artisans who had worked tirelessly to create such intricate art. A sense of deep appreciation and admiration for all the artisans overwhelmed everyone at the end of the trip.

Dear parents,

As we approach the end of another busy year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for offering your support to both, your ward and the school.

This school term ends on April 10th 2019 and reopens on the 03rd of June 2019 to all groups. Students are expected to be in school latest by 8.35 a.m. Issue of notebooks and other trivia will be notified to you at a later date.

We would like to inform you that all students are required to wear a black pant for sports day and a few other events in school. In this regard, please facilitate this inclusion in your child's wardrobe.

I hope that learning will continue throughout the holidays and you will encourage your ward to stay connected to learning.

Do have a happy summer vacation until the start of the next academic session.

Best regards,  
Yamini  
Headmistress.