

A teacher takes a hand, opens a mind and touches a heart (Teacher's day)

In Auro Mirra International School, Teacher's day was celebrated with great gusto and fervor to honour this great man on his birth anniversary. Teacher's day is always special for students and teachers. It symbolizes the beautiful bond they share and provides students an opportunity to express their appreciation for their beloved teachers. The zest amongst the students to celebrate this day was by itself a reward.

The day began with senior students stepping into the shoes of their diyas by taking on the role of teachers and conducting classes for their juniors. The students made their teachers feel special by expressing their love and gratitude through personally made cards, charts and flowers. They even worked hard to put up a lovely programme.

The celebration began with a talk on Dr. Radha Krishnan by Naverdo Sandeep, followed by a group song presented by the girls of class 6th and 7th. A wonderful surprise the teachers were treated to was a power point presentation in which the students had to recognize their diyas from their childhood pictures. The children were thrilled to see their diyas as little boys and girls. The students had lined up more entertaining acts for their teachers such as comic acts, magic show and a dance. Anika from Sixth grade read out a poem written by her saying a big thank you to her dear teachers. And finally cards of appreciation and flowers were handed over to every diya by the children.

After school hours, diyas were called upon to be part of an evening dedicated exclusively to much fun and



celebration. It was now time for teachers to display their talents, entertain and be entertained. Dance, music, comedy, poetry, acting, delicious treats and everything else one could count as fun was served at this delightful party. Applause was expressed by showering the entertainer with flowers. An evening reverberating with howls of laughter and the sound of thunderous claps was the perfect climax to such a memorable day.

AMIS in Onem colours

(Onam celebration)

Onam, the biggest festival in Kerala marks the homecoming of the legendary King Mahabali, whose reigning period is considered the golden era of the state. In order to create an awareness and appreciation among children for the cultural vibrancy of each state, Onam was celebrated in the school. The celebrations started with the making of a traditional, flower decoration called 'Pookolam' which was a sight to behold and spread the spirit of festivity. It was followed by a speech which made clear to everyone the significance of Onam. A Malayalam song and a traditional Kerala Thiruvathirakali dance recreated the joyous ambience of fun and frolic that one would experience exclusively in Kerala. A Pookolam activity was also conducted for the students of grade five and above. It was impressive to see such creative and colourful Pookolams created by students that adorned the school campus. The diyas came dressed for the occasion in traditional attires which took the festivities a notch higher.

Set free the child in you

(Parents day)

"Either none can go back to their childhood days nor childhood can come forth to anyone" is an apt saying that emphasizes the impossibility of going back to the relaxed, easy and trouble free life of childhood. But Parents at AMIS were invited to relive their old, happy and carefree days as the school celebrated Parents Day on July 21st 2017.

This day provided parents an incredible opportunity to put up an amusing show for their little ones. Having planned surprises for their children, parents brought out their best acts and delighted the kids. A wide variety of programmes



ranging from Classical dances to filmy numbers, an umbrella dance and a Zumba routine made the celebration a lively and entertaining affair. A few Parents enthralled the audience by displaying their musical abilities with the violin and the guitar. Poems and songs written by parents themselves surely tugged the heart strings of those gathered. Not to forget the parents who hosted the show and had the children in splits with their comic timing. Also, the children didn't fail to crack the riddles that the anchors had for them. The entire programme was an exciting celebration that the children and their parents will cherish forever. Yamini didi addressed the gathering and applauded the parents for putting up a great show and making the day so special and memorable. The celebration ended with a vote of thanks from one of the parents and everyone left with a smile on their face.



Celebrating Freedom

(Independence day)

The heavy rains of the night before could not stop us from celebrating the 71st Independence Day. The entire AMIS family gathered to honor this momentous day in the Indian history. Shri Rajanikanth ji graced the occasion with his presence and hoisted the national flag. The day was all the more significant as it was also the birthday of Sri. Aurobindo, whose philosophy forms the founding principles of the school. The students of AMIS recited one of Sri. Aurobindo's poems, which spoke of the power of freedom. It was followed by a brief speech on Independence Day in Kannada and Sanskrit. A medley of patriotic songs in Hindi served to spread the nationalistic fervour. A beautiful dance performance by the students, the Yoga

and Gymnastics display enraptured everyone. The students amazed the gathering with their quick answers during the Quiz session. It was a treat to watch the breathtaking, synchronized drill display of students with their tricolour hula-hoops. The programme ended with the recitation of a Hindi poem with a message that stated that the greatest loss of all was the loss of freedom. Then the children went home happily eating their sweet ladoos.

Let it rain Poems this week!!!!! (Poetry week- Pre-Primary and Primary)

இன்னிடு இன்னிடு மழலையின் சொல் இன்னிடு- innidu, innidu, malalaiyin sol, innidu is a tamil saying which translates as "a child speech is like a beautiful melody". History states, kings richly rewarded poets and recitals were considered as an important element of entertainment. Our children in AMIS, through their innocent voices and expressions captivated our attention and it was a treat to the ears. Appreciate the tiny tots from Pre-Primary session because for so many of us as an adult, it is a task to stand before the mike and address the audience but our little ones took the first step with courage and confidence.

It may be a simple poem like baa baa black sheep but it conveys the significance of sharing. Try reciting a poem and it will immediately make you feel rejuvenated. The energy and the spirit of the children was very contagious and the memory of the children were commendable.



Poetry celebrates the individual world, the sound of language and the rhythm of language in a way that prose does not. It is a fun, short, tasty morsel to share with children. Poetry builds the foundation of learning, to read by exposing children to the sounds and rhythms of language. For older children, poetry is a great vehicle for learning how complex thoughts, humorous ideas, deep emotions or entire narratives can be expressed with a few carefully chosen words.

The mind of a child is the perfect place for poetry to grow. Children are young poets. They just need to realize their potential. Poetry for children is a way to access areas of their imagination and grow as critical thinkers. Poems should be a part of every child's life. We, at Auro Mirra International School are completely in sync with the aforementioned ideas about the importance and benefits of poetry in a child's life.

Hence, as is customary each year at AMIS to assign poetry its rightful and significant place in the hearts and minds of our students, we selected the second week of July to celebrate 'Poetry Week'. Again, in keeping with the mission and vision of AMIS every child was given an opportunity to participate. The participants ranged from the kindergarten classes to middle school. And what's more each and every child was selected based on his/her skills and interests in the varied languages. We had poems being recited in English, Hindi, Kannada and Sanskrit. The language experts guided and trained the children to recite the poems that each group had selected with their respective language teachers.

So on day one i.e., the 10th of July, we had students from grades V, VI, VII reciting poems in English. Both classes VI and VII recited poems composed by one of the pioneers of the modernist movement in English poetry – T.S.Eliot. Class VI recited his "Macavity the Mystery Cat" complete with the languorous movement of the mysterious feline while class VII recited "A dog is a dog and a cat is a cat" mimicking the sounds of both the canine and the feline extremely well. The students of class V recited "The Professor" written by one of the most renowned professors of English, who was the head of the department of English at Bombay University in the 70s and early 80s – the late Nissim Ezekiel. The poem transported us to the monotonous lives, the personal needs and aspirations of retired teachers and professors who seemed to be very happy and satisfied in their comfort zones not at all wanting more than what they had.

The students of class IV A recited "Great, Big, Wide World" which extolled the virtues of the splendor and majestic beauty of the world we live in, quick on the heels of class IV A were the students of Class IV C who conveyed their thoughts and ideas of how things would appear and be if the world decided to stand with its head down in a very humorous way. Class III recited "The Mountain and the Squirrel" with perfect rhythm and voice modulation. The students of class II recited "The Pencil's story" narrating the story of an H&B Pencil's journey so well, that they had the other students sitting up and listening with a lot of interest. On the same day i.e., the 13th of July the students of III A recited "Kids for the Earth" sharing concerns about the damage done to the environment and suggesting measures on how each one of us has a responsibility towards protecting the environment. The students of class III C recited lines of the poem "All Things Bright and Beautiful", a popular poem written by Cecil Alexander.

Class I B had all the facilitators and students in splits when they recited lines from the poem "So Big" by Max Fatchen. Class I C took us to the world of the cute squirrels, hundreds of them, who have made the AMIS's

trees their homes and are quite happy living up there. They recited "Whisky Frisky" as their sweet little friends whisked and frisked about in glee. With the lower primary grades recitation on the 14th of July, it was tie to bring down the curtains on a highly enjoyable poetic week. WOW!!! Way to go AMIS!!!

As one of the greats of English poetry has rightly said "There are three things that a poem must reach – the eye, the ear and what we may call the heart or the mind. It's most important to reach the hearts of the readers". We at Auro Mirra International School shall always strive to do just that year after year.



Talent Personified

(Primary Exhibition)



The exhibition day for the Primary section of the school to be held on 16th September 2017 kindled infectious excitement and enthusiasm in the children and teachers. On the appointed day, there were skits performed by children in different languages like English, Hindi, Kannada and Sanskrit. The performances were held in the Wisdom Courtyard, where parents had gathered to watch the various shows. The English skit showed what would happen if a fight broke out among famous poets from around the world

over who was the greatest of them all. The Hindi skit, in the most comical manner emphasized the role of 'muhavare' or idioms in language. The skit portrayed an Englishman visiting an Indian kingdom to learn the Hindi language and is baffled to learn how idioms are a part and parcel of spoken communication. The song at the end of the play "Hindi ke muhavare hain bade hi bavre" was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by our dear audience as one could find them singing the same after the show.

The Kannada skit helped the audience learn a few Kannada words as it involved the participation of the spectators who were asked to name a few objects in Kannada. The audience had a gala time learning these new words. The Sanskrit skit was another fun performance where parents were amazed to watch their children speak Sanskrit fluently.

'Find the connections' was a really interesting Mathematics display which showcased the different types of angles and lines through dance movements. The children looked lovely in their black and red costumes as they formed the different angles. The art and craft room displayed beautiful paintings, quilling and Thai artwork created by students.

The science exhibition held in the school grounds in an eco-friendly environment had children explain the medicinal values of plants, their benefits and their consumption patterns. The Social studies display enriched all the children and parents with information on planets and the solar system by letting students don the role of planets and speak of their special properties. Parents were overjoyed to watch children be a part of this exciting learning process and perform with such zeal.



Visit to Danavantri vana (Experiential learning)

Monday, the 21st of august 2017, was an exciting day for all the children of grade 4. We boarded our bus at 9.30 am with great enthusiasm, along with Yamini didi and Indumathi didi. Our destination was the Danavantri vana, which is named after Goddess Danavantri (Goddess of health). It was a huge forest with a lot of medicinal plants. We, even, saw a millipede crawling away. What an adventure it was! Then we saw another, one more and more. That is when we realized that the entire place was teeming with millipedes. Oh yes! we did bring a snail back to our campus. We learnt the names and uses of all the medicinal plants and herbs which we use in our day-to-day life. After learning about the plants, we sampled some gooseberries along with Yamini didi and sat under a gazebo to finish our lunch. We did get some plants for our school and returned at around 2.30 pm. It was such an adventure to spend a day in the forest.

Math Made Easy

(PEP Session)

Aren't a lot of us terrified of Mathematics and its endless problems? While it came easily to some gifted ones in class, it gave the others nightmares. These contrasting reactions to Mathematics are due to the way it was taught to us. Teachers at AMIS go beyond the 'set way' of teaching and learning and make all efforts to impart knowledge in the most fun filled way. To help students understand and apply mathematical concepts, two interesting activities were designed by teachers. These fun activities were



introduced to parents in the Math Pep Session held on 29th August 2017.

The First activity was called "Identify the Place value" which consisted of two levels and aimed at explaining and reinforcing the concept of place value of numbers. At Level one, a three digit number was called out and based on the value of the number parents had to pick up a digit and sit on a chair depicting that number. Level two included a four or five digit number and concepts such as face value, successor, predecessor and rounding number were introduced at this stage.

The second activity 'Guess the number' conceptualized and conducted by the Math teachers was a fun brain teaser. Parents had to work in pairs and guess the number their partners had in mind. The activity was played at different levels. The first level required thinking of a one digit number and the other had to guess this number correctly by following certain rules pertaining to mathematics concepts. It dictated that no more than five questions should be asked, forbidding repetition of similar questions within which time the partner should have correctly guessed the number.

The second level stepped up the complexity by asking parents to think of two digit numbers. This time ten questions could be asked without repetition. It was a fun and joyous sight to watch parents rack their brain to arrive at the right answer. It was amazing to see parents who wouldn't give up until they guessed the right number. The session was successful in achieving its objective of developing love for learning Mathematics and driving away the fear that most people feel at the sound of it.



Visit to Eco House

(Experiential learning)

On the bright sunny day of 23rd August, grades sixth and seventh set out to Mrinalinee and Navantara's house to learn about the eco friendly approaches they use at home. We started from school at 9.00 a.m. When everyone stepped inside the gate, our first reaction was "vow"! The walls of the house were made of mud bricks, obtained from their own site by mixing mud and cement. They had a nice and cool garden, with a mini vegetable patch on one side. Their parents welcomed us and soon we were divided into two groups. First we went to the terrace. It had four big solar panels and a solar water heater. Their father explained that when it's a nice, hot sunny day the sunrays get trapped in small cells present in the panel, transmitted through wires to batteries,

with the help of which their entire lighting, and working of fans was taken care of. We also understood the working of the solar water heater. Their mother showed us the skylights, which flooded the house. Segregation of waste as dry and wet and also the recycling of even bits of paper practiced at home was beautifully explained. They also showed us how the wet waste was converted to manure.

We also saw how rain water was collected and purified. An other green initiative was the separation and purification of grey and black water. The grey water is subjected to a kind of plants which absorb all the chemicals and then it is stored in a sump which is used to water plants.

All of us relished the lemonade and returned with a dream to build a house like that some day!

Visit to Channarayapatna

(Experiential learning)



On the first and second of September, grades sixth and seventh went on an overnight field trip to Channarayapatna. En route they visited the Nandini High tech product factory, a unit of KMF. Children were awestruck, looking at the gigantic process. Even more inspiring

was the visit of the entire unit, where a highly competent facilitator explained the process involved in the separation of milk, butter, ghee, milk powder, and tetra milk packs.

After lunch they visited the sugarcane fields, experimented climbing coconut trees using machines. They also visited a local farm where they observed the milking of cows using machines, testing for the purity of milk and the fat content. After supper they enjoyed the camp fire and retired for the night in camps which were set up by them during the day with the help of a local.

The next morning, children visited the sugarcane factory. Again the guide explained every stage of processing sugar from cane. After lunch the students boarded the bus, satiated with experiential learning.



Adventure awaits

(Experiential learning)

The students of grade 5, 6 and 7, accompanied by their divas headed for an educational trip to a science museum in two buses on the 16th of August. On reaching the Visvesvaraya museum, students discovered that there was a lot to see, learn, experience and experiment. They explored every floor of the museum and were overjoyed to engage in fun experiments demonstrating scientific laws and theories. Owing to the time constraint the students had to move to the next destination or they would have loved to spend the entire day exploring the museum.

The next stop was the Planetarium where students were transported to the dazzling world of stars and planets. The show was very informative, enlightening and interesting for the students who were fresh from having finished a chapter on the solar system. This experience had surely left an everlasting impression on the minds of the students, who headed back to AMIS safe and sound huddled up in their respective buses.

Learning to Relax

(PEP Session)

A PEP session on "Learning to relax" was held for parents and teachers on 26th August 2017. The day began with warm up exercises conducted by Manoj Bhaiya who explained the importance of warm-up as a precursor to any meditative activity. The journey towards achieving utmost relaxation and serenity was guided by

Harvinder didi, who took participants through the various levels that precede the state of relaxation. By systematically tensing particular muscle tissues in the body, such as in the neck and shoulders and releasing the tension one could relax the muscles. A particularly soothing music was played in the background to aid the process of relaxation. Harvinder didi told the gathering how both listening to music and exercising could help lower overall tension and stress levels. By the end of the session, the participants looked relaxed, refreshed and radiant.

