

The Somaiya School

Sept—Oct 2017
Volume 1, Issue 5

RAYS

Sept - Oct 2017

The Somaiya School Newsletter



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Parent:

As we walk towards the end of the first term (academic year 2017-18) , we hope that your journey so far this year has been an exciting one as it has been for us. It amazes us how our students grow from strength to strength honing their skills and effectiveness with each passing event.

We believe in providing a holistic growing environment for all our stakeholders and this edition of the school newsletter (RAYS) showcases the capacity building training programs that our teachers have undertaken. Our students are also participating in more and more competitions outside the school, which is so important for an all-rounded personality.

This edition of RAYS encompasses a plethora of activities that took place in September – from sports to cultural events to a wonderfully organized student-led Teacher's Day celebrations. We are also happy to share that we won laurels at the Somaiya Foundation Day, including Best School Award. Our support staff didi Ms. Pranali also won the outstanding employee award, and we are very happy for her indeed!

This month also saw some rigorous preparation for the ongoing assessments. This was sprinkled with some festive celebrations. The Joy of Giving week is an initiative that the school is partnering with to encourage giving back to society and being connected to our roots. We are happy to report that our parent-teacher community has contributed 1.23 lacs towards Helpage India, and the contributions towards Goonj and other organisations as part of the "*Daan Utsav*" have been very heartening. We thank our parents for their generosity and kindness.

As we step into the second term at the other end of this Diwali vacation, I urge kids to spend their time sensibly as well as relax and rejuvenate. Also request parents to keep a check on their child's media usage, not to forget social media connects. RIIDL is offering a workshop on Design Thinking at the SVV campus on 14th , 16th & 17th Oct . Circulars to this effect have been sent and we hope students make the most of this wonderful workshop;

As always, I look forward to suggestions on how to strengthen the parent-school partnership and forge ahead with full throttle. Please do write in at principal.tss@somaiya.edu

Wishing each one of you and your families a very festive and safe Diwali!

Happy Reading !

Warmly,

Ms. Parveen Shaikh

(Principal – The Somaiya School)

हिन्दी दिवस समारोह - 14 सितंबर 2017

द सोमैया स्कूल के प्रांगण में दिनांक 14-9-17 को हिन्दी दिवस समारोह मनाया गया । इस समारोह में स्कूल के विद्यार्थियों के साथ-साथ अभिभावकों ने भी बढ़-चढ़कर हिस्सा लिया ।

कार्यक्रम की शुरुवात कक्षा दसवी के राशी के भाषण से हुई ।

- उसके हिन्दी भाषा के महत्व पर एक 'पीपीटी' दिखाया गया ।
- 'माँ का दिल' लघुनाटिका प्रस्तुत की गई ।
- कक्षा नौवी के छात्राओं द्वारा 'कवि सम्मेलन' प्रस्तुत किया गया ।
- दर्शकों के लिए 'पहेली' कार्यक्रम था ।
- कार्यक्रम के अंत में अभिभावकों ने 'यमलोक में दावन' - यह नाटक प्रस्तुत किया ।

आभार प्रकट कार्यक्रम के साथ कार्यक्रम समापन किया गया ।



Maths Quiz — Juniors and Senior

Secondary School students participated in the Inter House Maths Quiz (Seniors). Following are the winners.

Yajurveda were the winners of **grades 8—10** comprising Ms. **Diksha Kapoor**, Mst. **Soumil Sanghrajka**, Mst. **Anmol Bajaj**, Mst. **Malhaar Dhavale**. **Rigveda** were the winners for **Grades 5—7** comprising Mst. **Gajanan Nerurkar**, Mst. **Shrey Mehta**, Ms. **Jhanvi Karlekar**, & Mst. **Vidyut B**



Students of **Grades 1-4** participated in the **Maths Quiz (Junior)** held in Sep 2017. The quiz was played in 4 rounds-Fun with numbers (A. grade 1 and 2, B. grade 3 and 4), . Magic with sticks ,Visual round (A. grade 1 and 2, B. grade 3 and 4) and Rapid fire round. The quiz was conducted by Ms. Riddhi and Yamini. The score keepers – Ms. Meghna, Ms. Kripa. Time keepers – Ms. Nikita, Ms. Soraya. Certificates – Ms. Riddhi. The winning team as well as the participants were given certificates. Kids enjoyed and played with a good team spirit. The winners were :**Aarush Chedda** (1C), **Samit Shah** (2B), **Manav Maniyar** (3A) & **Yashvir Chedda** (4D)



Updates from the music corner



Able trained by our Music teachers Ms. **Anita S** and Mr. **Sagar M** , the following students from grades 5-8 participated in the 59th Foundation Day celebrations at the SVV campus. They sang Folk Songs, *Abhangs* & Devotional Fusion at the event : Ms. **Yanna S** , Mst. **Soham C** from Gr. 5, Mst. **Ritwik K** (Gr. 6), Mst. **Arnav S**, Mst. **Gajanan N**, Ms. **Rasika** (all Gr.7), Mst. **Tanish**, Mst. **Akshat D**, Mst. **Taranjeet**, Mst. **Sarang S**, Ms. **Rhea R** , Mst. **Udit R** (All gr. 8) & Mst. **Debanjan** (Gr. 9). Ms. **Nitya K** (Gr.5) accompanied the students on the violin.

Students of **Gr. 1** and **Gr. 5** also performed the **Hindi Bhasha Song** for the **Hindi Diwas celebrations** on 14th sep 2017. The music teachers composed the background music for the **puppet show** held for Pre-primary in Aug 2017.

Our music teachers Ms. **Anita S** and Mr. **Sagar M** were called as one of the honorable judges for the Cluster Level National Integration Camp KVS—Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat 2017-18 competition on 6th September held at Kendriya Vidyalaya Bhandup. They judged the event for the following events : Group Song, Group Dance, Solo Classical Dance, Solo singing and Skit.



Teacher Spotlight—Mrs. Arti Pandey

This month, one of the teachers in the Spotlight series is **Mrs. Arti Pandey**. She has over 19 years of teaching Hindi across various schools like Birla school, Nutun Hindi high school and junior college, Saraswati English high school . An M.A , B.Ed. (Hindi) graduate, she is also an Indian Air force Officer's wife who has travelled across the country and taught in many Air force Schools. Her family comprises her husband who heads the Powai Aviation Unit and an Engineer son who's preparing for the Civil Services. She joined TSS in June 2017, and shares her teaching experiences with us.

Team Communications thanks Ms. Arti for her time and inputs.

Q : How did you take up teaching as a career ?

A: I took up teaching at a local Air force School where my husband was posted. As I already had a M.A & B.Ed. Degree I enjoyed the experience and continued teaching at most Air force schools whenever we were transferred. My Father-in-law also retired as the Vice Principal of Somaiya Vinay Mandir, so that was an added inspiration for me to take up teaching.

Q: Hindi as a language is so rich in our culture. How can it be made more 'cool' for the present generation which relates to English being the popular medium for communication ?

A: We have a rich heritage and our literature is vast. Hindi can be made more interesting via various methods—Story / Drama etc. Our present curriculum also is reading India's culture through Hindi. Hindi Diwas is an attempt in that direction. Parents should also speak in their mother tongue more and more so kids pick up more languages at home.

As for making it more 'cool' to the present generation, parents and students ought to understand that there are viable career options even in Hindi Linguistics : Indian Parliament or most governmental organisations require high quality translators, Media (like News channels / Newspapers / Radio etc) also use Hindi extensively to reach to the hinterland. There is also an exclusive Hindi University in Wardha (Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Wardha) to pursue Hindi studies. Mahatma Gandhi was of the firm opinion that Hindi should not only be the national language of the country but it should also gain the status of a world language .The dream of the Mahatma was reflected in the resolutions passed by the First World Hindi Conference organized in Nagpur in the year. Since 1997 the University is functioning as a residential University solely dedicated to the cause of Hindi.

Q: How has your experience been with The Somaiya School so far ?

I have joined in June 2017, and am happy with the support I get from the Management and colleagues. This school has also given me an opportunity to hone my technical skills and use technology to teach Hindi better, including learning how to type Hindi on a computer.

One Quote that inspires you everyday.

“आदमी अपने विचारों से ही बनता है—वह जो सोचता है वही बन जाता है।”



Teacher Spotlight—Ms. Jyoti Lodaya



The 2nd teacher in the Spotlight series this month is **Ms. Jyoti Lodaya**. She has an M.A in History from Mumbai University and a B.Ed. from Guru Nanak College of Education and Research. She lives with her parents and younger brother in Mumbai and has joined TSS in June 2015. She shares her teaching journey with us.

Team Communications thanks Ms. Jyoti for her time and inputs.

Q : How did you take up teaching as a career ?

A: I was inspired by two people : my History teacher Ms. Rodrigues when I was in Grade 8 who made History so interesting and interactive, and (Late) Ms. Meenakshi Rajan (professor at Somaiya College), who taught me the nuances of teaching along with subtle techniques to make it more impactful. My family and my father in particular, who's a businessman, is very happy with my decision to pursue teaching as a career option.

Q: History is generally considered boring and dry. How do you endeavour to make it more interesting ?

A: Stories, anecdotes, learning with Timelines about wars and historic Events , Acronyms for remembering King and Queen names—these are few initiatives that have been very successful for me as a teacher. Children remember more 'by doing' rather than being taught. Although History is a subject based on memory, if the student approaches it in a novel way, then the subject is retained and recalled better. Apart from this, practicing meditation and reading on a daily basis without too much backlog is an excellent way to ace any subject including History.

Q: How has your experience with The Somaiya School been so far ?

I have joined in June 2015, and am very happy to be part of the ecosystem. Both the ex-principal Ms. Vaidya and presently Ms. Parveen mam have supported me so much and motivate me everyday to do better. As this is my first job, I have learnt so much just by observing and making the most of the ecosystem which offers so many learning opportunities. As a class teacher, especially for students in their pre-teen years, its an absolute challenge to stay calm and focused and provide positive words of advice to all my students.

Every batch teaches me newer ways of handling the students in newer and better ways. The important thing is that one keeps learning.

Q: Tell us about your hobbies.

I am a History buff, so would advice all my students to watch History Channel, Rajya Sabha TV (so relevant to the Civics / Constitutional subjects that we teach in class). Apart from watching television, I am also very keen on cooking, reading books on History.

One Quote that inspires you everyday.

Work hard in silence. Let success make the noise.

It's teachers' turn to have some fun ! - A photo Essay

By the students, for the teachers : This was a great way to let your hair down and celebrate Teacher's Day.

Wholly led by students of Grade 8 under the able direction of Ms. **Trupti (LS teacher- TSS)**, the event was a storming success. We had Zumba by the students. All the teachers including the principal participated in this energizing dance and also the mini group skits, Treasure Hunt, Laughter Challenge. They also loved the videos that were put together—a wonderful ensemble of all 95 educators and staff of TSS. The teachers displayed amazing creative and team skills while participating in this event that helped them relax emotionally, mentally and physically. All in all, a great team building exercise :)

Text Inputs : Ms. Riya Botadra (8C)

Snippets from the event.

Group formation



Enthusiastic student organisers



Dancing to the tunes of the students



Fun all the way !





TEACHER TRAINING UPDATES

A lot of emphasis is placed on skill and professional development for our teachers. Following is a synopsis of programs that our staff has attended from April to Oct 2017.

Date	Training Program	Attendees
1 st April 2017	Effective Listening Skills	Ms. Ramya and Ms. Kamiya (special educators)
May 2017	Workshop on Story Telling Techniques	Ms. Satyavani & Ms. Neha Budharani
9th June 2017	Anti-bullying workshop	Ms. Mansi, Ms. Vijeyta & Ms. Ramya (Special Educators)
17 th & 18 th June	The Adhyayan Facilitators programme-module1-level1	Ms. Kalyani Vinod
June 2017	Facilitator's Program (Level 2)	Ms. Satyavani, Ms. Vishalakshi, Mr. Mahesh
June 2017	Numeracy Development + Story Telling	Ms. Riddhi Shah
14th July 2017	Story Telling Techniques	Selected Primary & Pre-primary teachers
30 th July 2017	CBSE workshop for Social Science teachers	Ms. Tandra, Ms. Jyoti, Ms. Dipti
28 th , 29 th July, 4th & 5 th Aug,	BARC workshop on conducting effective experiments	Ms. Akshata
21 st June 2017	Handwork workshop by Ms. Hemal Chhadwada	Ms. Nikita
9th Sep 2017 & 12th Sep 2017	Sex education in schools	Ms. Mansi, Ms. Mildred & Ms. Vijeyta
15 th & 16 th Sep 2017	Workshop on Mathematics	Ms. Hemalatha, Mr. Pradeep
23rd Sep 2017	Defeating the blue whale	Ms. Mansi Navavati (Counsellor)
Sep 2017	Workshop on Handwork	Ms. Nikita & Ms. Hetal
29 th Sep 2017	Non-violent Communication workshop	All teachers
3rd Oct 2017	Enquiry Based learning	Ms. Parveen, Ms. Aparna, Ms. Roshan
4th Oct 2017	The art and science of making questions	Ms. Parveen Shaikh, Ms. Sharvari Dicholkar Ms. Gloria Xavier & Ms. Varsha Kotian
4th Oct. 2017	Activity / problem based teaching – learning & Assessment	Ms. Gomathi Srinivasan, Mr. Mahesh Kumar Jain
5th Oct 2017	Digital Portfolio	Ms. Pradnya Sheth
5th Oct 2017	The art of Critical thinking	Ms. Satyavani Shirke, Ms. Ruchi Shah
6th Oct 2017	Makers' space	Ms. Parveen Shaikh
6th Oct 2017	New age Leadership	Ms. Sharvari D (Secondary Coordinator)
7th Oct 2017	Increasing attention span and retention through kinesthetic learning	Ms. Mittal Gala & Ms. Krupa Mehta (Pre-primary teachers)

WHAT IS DIPLOMATHON ?

Asia's Largest Diplomacy Student Conference. DIPLOMATHON is a high impact learning platform for school & university students to participate and reinvent the Diplomat within. DIPLOMATHON is a Two Day Student Conference which provides a one stop learning module in International Relations, Public Speaking & World Affairs along with for the first time ever, A reproduction of Global Organisations which reflect the Indian Diplomacy portrait, including the BRICS, SAARC & avant-garde moots. The term, "DIPLOMATHON" is derived from the French word : Diplomatie (meaning, the art or science of conducting international relations) and the Greek word Marathōn (meaning, a long distance persistent journey).

Hence, DIPLOMATHON 2017 envisions to provide an ultimate journey to diplomacy through this extensive Student Summit, themed - Face à l'est (Facing East) on 2-3 September, 2017.

DIPLOMATHON—A STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE

43 students of TSS (grades 7—10) participated in the 2-day **Diplomathon Seminar** held at Nahar International School, Powai (Mumbai) on **2nd and 3rd Sep 2017**. TSS bagged **1 gold and 2 silver medals and 2 verbal recommendations** amongst 1520 delegates representing 60 Schools from all over India and 1 school from Sri Lanka making it first of its kind in



any conference all around the world. Given that we only had 2 working days to prepare for this event, the performance of the students is indeed commendable.

The majority of the delegates from TSS were first timers and were accompanied by teachers Ms. **Lakshmi** & Ms. **Neha**. Our students were amongst the very few who gave the opening speeches without referring to a paper. It acted as good platform for the students to get a hands on experience. Keeping in mind, this was an informal diplomacy conference simulating a MUN (Model UN). There were several Committees at Diplomathon including Interpol, IFJ (International Federation of Journalists), European Union, FIFA, Marvel, Harry Potter, India etc.

Manov Bhounick, our trainer with the TSS MUN Club was awarded the Best Chairperson amongst 39 Executive Board Members. Mst. **Aryaman S** (7B) representing FIFA committee won the **Gold** medal, Mst. **Soumil S** (9A) & Mst. **Arjun S** (7A) won the **Silver** medals, and Mst. **Arnav D** (8B) and Mst. **Parshva Jain** (8B) received a **special verbal recommendation**.

I was part of IFJ (International Federation of Journalists) and got an opportunity to observe at close quarters how a formal conference is conducted. Diplomathon was the key to unlock your best experience and explore your inner talents—Ms. **Krishna Devannavar** (7C)

It was my first experience at a formal conference. I learnt a lot about drafting, presenting resolutions and researching technical data. Overall a good experience—Ms. **Naisha Arora** (7C)

This event improved my confidence and my social and diplomatic skills. A lot of knowledge gained over 2 days in a very formal and interesting manner—Mst. **Soumil Sanghrajka** (9A)

It was a memorable experience for me, and although I was nervous at first I understood the concepts quickly. I was also truly delighted on receiving the high commendation Award—Mst. **Arjun Sivaramakrishnan** (7A)

Post the initial orientation, I was very excited to be part of the Diplomathon. The 1-minute moderated caucus and welcome speeches were very impressive and the entire experience boosted my self confidence—Mst. **Aryaman Santosh** (7B)

59th Somaiya Foundation Day

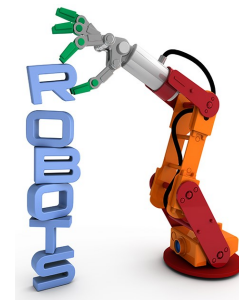
We celebrated our 59th Foundation Day on 9th September. It was on this day, in 1959 that the great visionary Padma Bhushan K J Somaiya laid the foundation of our great institution Somaiya Vidyavihar. Railway Minister Shri. Piyush Goyal was the chief guest.

Students of TSS participated in the 59th Foundation Day Celebrations held the Vidyavihar Campus. From Science Demos to group Singing to Umbrella / Fabric painting, students participated in a lot of the activities. The School also won couple of awards at the event.

A photo essay.

FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS—A PHOTO ESSAY





The students of TSS participated in a highly competitive **Robotics Competition**. Ably led by our ICT teacher, Ms. **Pradnya**, this competition encompassing 50 students was held in 2 stages:

Stage 1 : This took place at the school . We learnt the basics about the working, materials required, Creation, usage and concept behind the 3 robots : a Wired Car, a Wireless Car and a Quadcopter. A quadcopter, also called a quadrotor helicopter or quadrotor, is a multirotor helicopter that is lifted and propelled by four rotors.. All these 3 robots are remote -controlled. During the preliminary session, the 50 shortlisted students competed and the top 20 made it to stage 2.

Stage 2 : the stage 2 contestants were part of the Annual Robotics mela held by K J Somaiya Institute of Engineering and Information Technology (KJSIEIT) on 15th and 16th Sep 2017. On the first day, the students underwent training to make a Snake robot and were also further tuned into the technical essentials of a Quadcopter.

On 16th, the inter-school finals took place. It was a nail-biting finish. The participants were nervous at first but slowly got a hang of the remote controlled devices. Every minute was a learning experience and the students also learnt a lot about Robotics.

Results: The Quadcopter team won the 1st place Trophy and the boys team of level 1 won the 2nd place troupe. The level 2 team members missed a prize by a whisker but put up a competitive show in the true spirit of sportsmanship.

The participant & winner list as follows:

1st Prize Trophy Quadcopter :

Master(s). Dev T,
Kushagra J, Yash K,
Arnav Rosia, Soumil S
(all Grade 9)

2nd place Trophy:

Shrey M, Vikrant V &
Purav S (all grade 7)

Level - 1				Level - 2							
Sr. No.	Class / Div	Name of the Student	Grades	Sr. No.	Class / Div	Name of the Student	Grades	Sr. No.	Class / Div	Name of the Student	Grades
1	7-A	Arjun S	7	16	8-A	Anmol B	8	31	9-A	Soumil S	9
2		Palash S	7	17		Aditya G	8	32		Deep S	9
3		Vedansh S	7	18		Jineet K	8	33		Deev D	9
4		Jiya W	7	19		Dhriti N	8	34		Kushagra J	9
5		Saachi G	7	20		Eva S	8	35		Pranav S	9
6	7-B	Adrian H	7	21	8-B	Aarya Savani	8	36		Arnav Rosia	9
7		Arnav S	7	22		Arnav D	8	37		Vansh G	9
8		Vihaan S	7	23		Akshat D	8	38	9-B	Dev T	9
9		Rhea K	7	24		Joanne L	8	39		Dev G	9
10		Niyati S	7	25		Kunjam K	8	40		Yash K	9
11	7-C	Shrey M	7	26	8-C	Darsh D	8	41		Manay M	9
12		Vikrant V	7	27		Pushkar M	8	42		Jia P	9
13		Purav S	7	28		Taranjeet S	8	43		Stacey S	9
14		Rhea P	7	29		Hansa K	8	44		Debanjan B	9
15		Mythri A	7	30		Krithika K	8	45		Aryan Verghes	9



Text Inputs : Ms.Kunjam Kale (8B) & Mst. Kushagra Zaveri (9A)



Grade 1 students visited the Somaiya Ayurvihar.—The students of grade 1 visited VANASPATYAM-an ayurvedic medicinal plants garden in Somaiya Ayurvihar (Sion) , on 18th September 2017 for their field trip. They learnt about various different plants used in preparing medicines and ayurvedic oils. The students were also taken to panchkarma ,their ayurvedic department where several ayurvedic massages & products and treatments are offered to people.



Students of grade 2 visited the post office. Excursions are means of educating ourselves on how we rely on certain services. Students were taken around to see how the letters were collected, segregated, stamped and then stored for postmen to collect. Visiting a post-office was something out-of-the-ordinary for the children as “post” is an ancient form of Communication. They were explained the way parcels are delivered to different places in the city and places in Country as well as different countries across the globe. While returning they also got to see a mail van and were also told the way the letters go by van to the airport and railway station. Later the children posted the envelopes that they prepared in class, writing their names and putting a date. They had put these letters in envelopes addressed to their parents. It was delightful to see the excitement on children’s faces as they were posting the letters in the post box. They were naturally happy, when their parents received the letters. It was altogether a great learning experience especially in the times of whatsapp and e-mail.



Grade 3 students went on a field trip to **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya** (formerly known as the Prince of Wales Museum) on 22nd Sep. Their joys knew no bounds as they boarded the bus with their classmates and teachers all ready to explore. The museum showcased birds, animals, sculptures, weapons, pottery and various forms of art, bringing the radiant glimpses of history alive. The students found it spectacular and would stand near some bird or animal and read facts about it. On their way back they had lot to ask and ponder about. Indeed it was a great day spent in real learning without flipping the pages of the books. A few memorable moments from the trip.



The world of science was discovered by students of **Grade 4** when they visited the **Nehru Science Centre**. they began the fun with watching a documentary ‘National Parks Adventure’ by Greg Mac Gillivray which was on the history of National Parks and also reflected upon what wilderness means to us. The next stop was a fun 3D Show on Maritime Life. This was followed by a tour around the Pre- Historic Section where the students were amazed to look around the wondrous journey of humans. The next fascinating experience was ‘Science on a Sphere’ where the solar system rotated in front of their eyes. The last bit of their trip was their encounter with the magic of static electricity where lightning was recreated for them. The students enjoyed the trip a lot that came with wonderful memories of the day.

Grade 2 conducted an assembly on the occasion of **Teacher's Day**. The assembly began with the Shloka: *Guru Brahma Gurur Vishnu Guru Devo Maheshwaraha, Guru Saakshat Para Brahma Tasmai Sree Gurave Namaha*. The meaning was explained by the students. The students performed a dance on the song "I love my Teacher" to show the teachers how much the students care for them. Next we had interview session with the teachers wherein the students posed as news reporters and asked questions to the teachers. The teachers were very sporting in answering them. It was fun for students and teachers. Following the interview there was a PPT slideshow where photos of all the teachers teaching from grade 1 to 5 were shown. The assembly concluded with a poem.



Secondary section students were treated to an awesome performance of **Odissi** dance by Ms. **Sangeetha Rajan** and her disciples as part of "**Nrityanubhooti**" program at The Somaiya School. It was a spectacular dance performance interspersed with the rich heritage, history and culture of the dance form. With very elegant headgear and graceful movements, they surely stole our hearts. Text inputs : Ms. **Darpan Shah** & Ms. **Sree prabha Nair** (students of Grade 9A)



"**Kids for Tigers**" is an initiative by **Sanctuary Asia** magazine. Bittu Sahgal (environmental activist & writer and Founding Editor of Sanctuary Asia)

started "**Kids for tigers**" in 2000 to safeguard the natural habitat of Tigers and protect them from calamity thus maintaining the ecosystem. A lot of strategic methodologies have been employed by Kids for Tigers to bring the hands together. Their representatives spoke to students of our school. The younger kids and particularly wildlife enthusiasts were thrilled with the experience. The children got an understanding as to how the environment is being protected using Tiger as a symbol. Through AV presentations the children got an idea as to how the ecological balance is disrupted and food chain is affected if any one organism is reduced. The children also pledged to save tigers.



Student voices from the event :

- ◆ "We need to preserve all natural resources. We ought to save the tigers because they are a great part of the Big Cats and we need to save lives." - Mst. **Joshua Bosco** (5B)
- ◆ "The assembly on Save the Tigers was a very exciting one. We learnt about how wolves changed the face of Yellowstone National Park and how tigers are equally important for the Indian Ecosystem." - Ms. **Vea Sarwaiya** (5A)

FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY TRAINING

Students of **Grade 9** attended the First Aid, CPR and Emergency Training conducted in the SVV campus by the faculty of K J Somaiya college Of Nursing. The students got hands-on training on these procedures. Ms. **Dipti** (Infirmary Nurse), Ms. **Aditi** & Mr. **Mahesh** (science faculty—TSS) accompanied the students.



Korean Story telling



It has been rightly said that the best way to know a country and its people is through their literature, folklore and stories.

ASSITEJ India (**ASSITEJ** - International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People) did a splendid job in opening the doors to a new experience, making the children curious enough to know more about the **Korean people** and their culture. ASSITEJ unites theatres, organisations and individuals throughout the world who make theatre for children and young people and is dedicated to the artistic, cultural and educational rights of children and

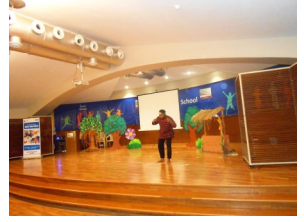
young people across the globe and advocates on behalf of all children regardless of nationality, cultural identity, ability, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, or religion. This organisation brings people together so that they can share knowledge and practice within the field of theatre for children and young people in order to deepen understandings, develop practice, create new opportunities and strengthen the global sector. The members of Assitej are National centers, Professional Networks, and individuals from around 100

countries across the world.

The story telling session was a very enjoyable experience for both the teachers as well as the students. It was also a learning experience in many ways as it was innovative and interesting.

The children were kept engaged without a sound system, a minimal and highly creative use of props. The stories came alive with the wonderful and expressive performances by the storytellers. Their wonderful connect and interaction with the children resulted in a very enriching and enjoyable experience.

For the teachers as well as the students it was “Yeh Dil Maange More”.



Non violent Communication - Training Program for teachers

When we hear feedback as a personal criticism, self-doubt, blame, upset, annoyance, frustration and anxiety can easily be triggered. What if you could hear differently? Imagine putting some giraffe ears on which opened your heart to hearing what they are saying in a different way. Instead of thinking in terms of who is right or wrong, better or worse you hear what they want. The ability to open our heart requires willingness, sometimes courage and definitely curiosity. Dr. **Marshall Rosenberg**—creator of nonviolent communication, used the giraffe metaphor to describe NVC- A Language for Life – because the **giraffe has the largest heart and can see the whole landscape**.

Nonviolent Communication (NVC) is based on the principles of nonviolence-- the natural state of compassion when no violence is present in the heart. NVC begins by assuming that we are all compassionate by nature and that violent strategies—whether verbal or physical—are learned behaviors taught and supported by the prevailing culture.

We had an extensive 5-hour interactive training session on NVC for all our teachers on 29th Sep 2017. The team from NVC who called themselves “**Giraffes of India**” comprised of Mr. Anand, Ms. Patricia, Ms. Manju and others. The activities were reflective in nature, and the audience was encouraged to share their experiences including any vulnerable moments they have faced during their personal and professional lives. The basic assumptions of NVC that we always have a choice, we are responsible for our feelings were discussed in detail. The 4 cornerstones of NVC : Self-empathy, Honest expression, Empathetic listening & Unconditional Positive regard were very well received by the audience.

Some feedback from the teachers:

The intention of the workshop seems very positive and for its effectiveness to be seen, a series of such interventions is necessary—Ms. Tandra Chakraborty

The sessions were interspersed with good activities which were fun and reflective—Ms. Dipti Rane

The energisers were good, and the content was dealt well but paucity of time prevented it from being more effective—Ms. Lakshmi Vaid

Teach and learn : a lecture-reading session report

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."
- Benjamin Franklin



Children's literature is a repository of values that reflect culture and these values are passed on from one generation to another. It is necessary for children to hear stories that cut through the shackles of caste, race and class and commemorate the spirit of

humanity. Through stories, they learn to relate to characters whom they will perhaps never meet, but yet these characters have a positive impact on their impressionable minds.

The school library is a place that encourages children to develop a well rounded view about the world. When children are introduced to a large variety of books immersed in settings that are unlike their own, they begin to wonder about things around them and look for answers that quench their thirst for knowledge. They question norms and all that is "normal".



They are exposed to the hardships faced by others and slowly nurture feelings of compassion and gratitude. Books promote self awareness and also sensitise children towards the lives of others.

Keeping this in mind, six sessions were planned for the students of grade 5B. The main aim was to showcase a collection of books that celebrate diversity and inclusion. The topics chosen were **Gender, Disability, Race, Urban-Rural Dwelling, Tribal Life –Art & Slavery-Racism.**

Some of the sessions were conducted indoors and some outdoors. The thematic effect of the props, books displayed, the topics discussed and the action points all enriched the learning experience.

For each topic, books were selected with deliberation and displayed. To help the children explore the topic in depth, activities were planned. At the end of every session, the students were expected to share their experiences. All the sessions were conducted by the Principal .

Some of the books that were discussed as part of the 6-part discussion series:

- ◆ William's Doll - Charlotte Zolotow
- ◆ *Udd Chali* ('Wings To Fly' in Hindi) - Sowmya Rajendran

- ◆ The boy who asked Why
- ◆ The Drinking Gourd– Jeanette Winter
- ◆ Nabiya (Hindi) - Chatura Rao/Ruchi Mhasane
- ◆ Kyun Kyun Ladki (The Why-Why Girl in Hindi) - Mahasweta Devi
- ◆ Dancing On Walls by Shamim Padamsee (illustrated by Uma Krishnaswami)

Text / report Inputs : Ms. Nirupama Kaushik (Library Educator).

Primary Section—Animal Day awareness & Gandhi Jayanti celebrations

On the 3rd of October, an assembly was conducted by students of Grades 1-5 to pay tribute to the Father of our Nation on his birthday (**Gandhi Jayanti**)

With great enthusiasm and fervor, Gandhiji's life history and major events were presented by students of Grade 2. This was followed by a mesmerizing poem narrated on the life of Gandhi by one of the students. A thoroughly engaging video showcasing Bapu's ideas helped everyone to marvel at Gandhiji's personality. The assembly reached its closure when students pledged to segregate wet waste from dry waste taking a step towards the fulfilment of Gandhi's dream of attaining a clean and green India

World Animal Day was celebrated on 4th October 2017. The students of Grade 2 learnt about the endangered species and why they were endangered . They also learnt what steps could be taken to prevent them from being endangered. A few animal facts were also discussed.

SPORTS CORNER

It has been a very busy month for sporting at TSS. Students participated in the following competitions in September. We wish them good luck in the next level and to bring us more laurels. The sports teachers Ms. **Reema** and Mr. **Manik** accompanied the students.

- ◆ 1st September : DSO Table Tennis under 17 Boys. They have reached the Semi Final level
- ◆ 13th & 14th September : DSO chess under 14 and under 17 respectively.
- ◆ 15th September : Mission million (football competition)
- ◆ 18th & 19th September : DSO Basketball under 14 and under 17 respectively.
- ◆ 25th, 26th, & 27th September : DSO Athletics Competitions.
- ◆ 22nd Sep : Inter house competition throw ball completion

Following are a few glimpses from the events:

