

The Somaiya School School Newsletter

Volume 1. Issue 1



Volume 1 – Issue 1: April 2017

Inside

From the Principal's Desk

2

Spotlight of the month

3

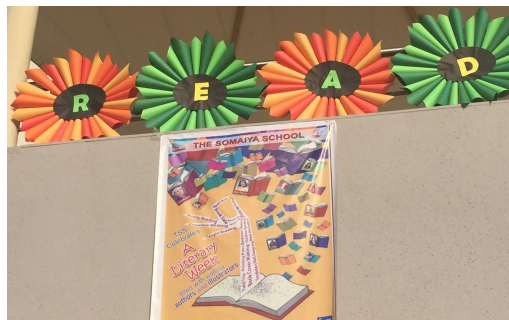
Literary Week @ TSS

4

Investiture Ceremony

9

*Education is what remains after
one has forgotten what one
has learned in school – Albert
Einstein*



TSS Literary Week 2017-18

The much-awaited Literary Week was celebrated with gusto and enthusiasm at The Somaiya School.

Author visits, Movie screenings, book donation, plays and more: our students enjoyed these activities immensely.

What's more - we had more than 10 authors visiting our school and interacting with students across all grades. The students' enthusiastic participation made it a resounding success.

Turn to Pgs. 4, 5 & 6 for an in-depth coverage

Follow me to Page

4



From the
Principal's
desk

Dear Parents,

The year is off to a great start, as we enter the sixth academic year!!

The school newsletter is our attempt to have a more intimate conversation with our wonderful parent community.

With every passing year we are growing stronger in our endeavor to provide a strong academic foundation with an abundance of opportunities for your child to grow and shine as a unique individual.

TSS is happy to introduce a nutritionally balanced menu designed with the help of a nutritionist. This year we also collaborate with Lighthouse to add value to our art curriculum for all the grades; so do look out for interesting work in the art class.

The life skills classrooms for grades 1-4 are enriched with elements of E-cube curriculum. The afterschool program sees a much-awaited addition of cricket and art class with enthusiastic response.

The school continues to benefit from the parent- school partnership. I welcome the new PTA committee members and look forward to good work together.

I am immensely grateful to all the parents who have extended their help as volunteers to make a difference to our school functioning. I am specially thankful to parents who have filled the end of the year feedback form with their candid comments, to parents who have been coming to our school library and tirelessly covering the library book, to all the parents who sent books for donations and lastly to those who volunteered to handle the book sale during the literary week. Your support means a world to us.

We are doing everything to make your child's experience in this school a fun filled one. If you have any questions, queries and concerns that may have gone unanswered, feel free to drop me a mail. Contact your child's teacher through the handbook or write to me to fix up a meeting to discuss any issues that may arise. I can be reached on principal.tss@somaiya.edu Thank you for being such a positive voice in our journey to make learning relevant and joyful for our students.

And here's wishing you and your family "**Happy Holidays!!!**" Look forward to seeing you on the other side of this summer vacation ☺

Yours truly,
Parveen Shaikh
Principal – The Somaiya School



Employee Spotlight

Beginning this month, we introduce to you, an employee of TSS who has strived to value-add to the roles they play at the school.

In this edition we introduce **Ms. Satyavani Shirke**. She is the **Primary section Coordinator** and is a well-loved and respected teacher in the school.

In a free wheeling tete-a-tete, this proud mother of 2 boys shares her hobbies and passion and vision for the future. Excerpts from the same:

On her passion and hobbies:

There are very few people who are lucky to have combined their passion and hobby into one and Ms. Shirke is one of them.

“I am fond of teaching and particularly love to be with young learners as I can completely relate to them.”

On young kids growing up:

“Unstructured play time is an important part of a child’s growing years, and it bothers me that there isn’t enough in a child’s life today.”

My years @ TSS:

Having worked here for past 4 years, TSS has helped me grow in all aspects both professionally and academically. My team is always helpful and I love working with them.

Motto for life:

“If you want to have something you have never had, you need to do something you have never done.”

.....

That’s quite an inspirational take - The editorial team thanks Ms. Shirke for her time and valuable insights...



Literary Week Celebrations - Contd. from Page 1....



Grade 1 kids had an exciting time reading outdoors, where the teacher narrated a story from Dr. Seuss' series. They also enjoyed playing Word Games on the Word Wheel. Author Natasha Sharma animatedly narrated & dramatized the book "Princess Easy and Pleasy" which the kids loved. Charlie Chaplin movie club provided moments of laughter. Kids dressed in colorful characters from Dr. Suess' books were a delight to watch.



Enid Blyton and his works came alive for children of **Grade 2**. Adjective game, authors Sakshi Singh & Neha Gupta narrated excerpts from their books "Jalebi Jingles" and "Bela misses her train": kids enjoyed them all.



Kids of **Grade 3** wrote letters to Roald Dahl and conducted a mock interview after his book "The Enormous Crocodile" was enjoyed at class. Author Shabnam Minwalla's book "The Lucky Girl" left our young readers wanting more. Author Katie Bagli, who read from her book 'Odyssey in the Ocean' revealed many secrets of the marine world that left our young listeners awestruck.



Author Deepak Dalal's book "Feather Tales", Ruskin Bond's "The Blue Umbrella" kept the children of **Grade 4** in awe, as did the authors **Shabnam Minwalla & Amishi Seth** who regaled the kids with their books on adventure with a touch of mystery. Buddy reading & a play "Binya ki Chatri" were the highlights of this event.



Mesmerizing Switzerland with its snow capped mountains was visited in the minds of the kids of **Grade 5** who read Heidi's book for this Literary Week. Poem in a pocket, spell bee, vocabulary wall and author visits enhanced the excitement of the eventful week. Author **Ms. Sowmya Rajendra** captivated the attention students of Grade 5.



Book Donation Boxes placed across the campus



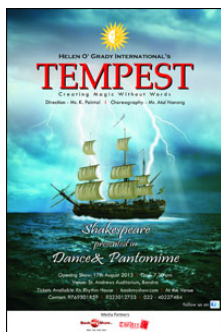
Game Stalls piqued the students' imagination



Used Books sales led by Parent Volunteers

(Continued)

Sherlock Holmes' adventures have excited readers of all ages. **Grade 6** students were no different when he was the character chosen for the Literary Week. Solving puzzles aided by mystery filled clues and a read-along of "Strange Mr. Angel" added to the mystical aura of the week. The students enjoyed author & nature enthusiast **Katie Bagli's** book "The Less Liked Lovables".



Shakespeare's classic "**The Tempest**" presented in a pantomime form (pantomime = a play without dialogues) accompanied by a great musical score mesmerized the kids of **Grade 8** as they watched it live at St. Andrew's Auditorium. Organized by **Helen O Grady International for TSS' Literary Week**, this was a play that left a lasting impression on our young minds. Our Student Contributor **Malhaar Dhavale from Grade 8C** shares that the play was intriguing and special effects were magnificent.



Grade 7 students were asked to read the book "The Black beauty" By Anna Sewell. This was followed by discussions on various topics related to the book such as Horse Breeds, Vocabulary on horse breeding, Cruelty to horses etc. Episodes of an earlier sitcom "Different Strokes" were streamed to the students. They also participated in the Spell Bee competition & learnt the basics of illustration under **Ms. Sonal Gupta**.



What's in a name, they say. Well, the students of **Grade 8** found that out as they made business cards that indicated to their friends what professions these kids wanted to pursue. From IPS officers to chefs to movie directors to astronauts & wannabe architects - all were presented on professionally designed 5 X 6 cards.



Students of **Grade 9** played “Spellathon”, “Jungle Trek”, “Extempore / JAM” sessions as part of the literary week. Storyboarding and word association tickled the creative thinking of the kids. Learning was so much fun to these kids and they thoroughly enjoyed it. Our student contributor **Ms. Sreeprabha Nair** from Grade 9A shares that all her classmates enjoyed the event a lot!



The world of colors and its multihued vibrancy was revealed to students of **Grade 9** when they visited the “**Vashi Print House**” where they saw that basic 4 colors of typesetting: Magenta, Cyan, Black & Yellow combined to form so many more colors that’s usually seen in newsprint and glossy magazines. The process awed the students when they saw how the colors are transferred to printed form. Our contributor Ms. Darpan Shah (Gr. 9A) says she’s not going to look at books the same way ever again! We are sure this is one experiential field visit they are sure to remember for long!



Ms. Meera Tenguria, a well-known PR professional conducted a workshop on public speaking for **Grade 9 & 10 students**: a much needed skill as they graduate into college students soon

Earth Day and its significance was explained to the students by our in-house staff **Mr. Mahajan** and the students listened to the talk with great interest.



Partners in Progress

Parents @ TSS form the backbone of our commitment to excellence: be it PTA meetings or volunteering, our parents' enthusiasm has taken our events to greater heights and we thank them for the same. Following are few glimpses of our parent volunteers in action!



Sports Corner

Kho-Kho matches were played at the school in the last week of April. There was fierce competition amongst the team players to win and garner points for the house. Team games such as these foster a sense of competition & well as camaraderie amongst the students. Needless to say, students look forward to these sport events & enjoy them as well..



The much awaited Student Council elections took place in the school during April 2017 and one could see many students campaigning for it, true election style – placards et al. It came down to the wire to a nail-biting finish when the winners of the TSS Student Council for 2017 – 18 were announced. Following are the members of the Student Council.

House / House Master	Atharva Veda (Mr. Mahesh)	Yajur veda (Ms. Dipti)	Rig Veda (Ms. Kripa)	Sama Veda (Ms. Tandra)
Head Boy				Kushagra Zaveri (9th A)
Head Girl	Yutika Pathak (9th B)			
School Sports Captain	Parth Shah (8th B)			
House Captain	Shambhavi Mahajan (9th A)	Aryan Ghule (8th B)	Shreya Parekh (9th B)	Jia Patel (9th B)
House Sports Captain	Freya Halgekar (7th C)	Shravani Therade (8th B)	Arya Savani (8th B)	Tejasvi Lalla (8th A)

The election process was concluded with a formal Investiture Ceremony where the student Council member parents also attended the ceremony. The Principal, Ms. Parveen Shaikh congratulated all the captains & stressed upon the importance of being grounded and being a team player. We look forward to our young CEOs-in-the making.

Ms. Suma Lerin compered the event and Ms. Satyavani Shirke proposed the vote of thanks.



Newsletter Editorial Team

Chief Editor – Ms. Parveen Shaikh

Chief contributors : Ms. Satyavani Shirke & Teaching Staff (primary & secondary)

Photo credits : Ms. Huma Ansari & TSS teaching staff

