

IMAGINE

VISITORS' OCCASION is an exclusive part of our erudition. The kids acquire opportunity to meet different people to improve their socializing skills. The Principal was invited to kindergarten classes as the VIP visitor and the kids had a good time of being with her. Our tiny tots listened to the story that was narrated by her following which they were made to sing rhymes, which they did with full of enthusiasm.

RAMZAN SPECIAL ASSEMBLY. Ramzan is one of the important occasions for Muslims. Grade 3 & 5 students really enthused all the others to reflect about the month of Ramzan in an event filled assembly.

Kinder's first assembly themed **RAMZAN** was conducted on July 5th, it was a magnificent aperture for the K2 and K3 buds to understand the importance of celebrating Ramzan. Kids wished their peers by exchanging some colorful greeting cards with full of joy and enthusiasm.

"Great satisfaction comes from sharing with others"

Ramzan the month of sharing. As a part of it, the students of Grade 1 & 2 paid a **VISIT TO AN ORPHANAGE.** They visited 'Dheena Bandhu Orphanage' in Walajapet on 5th July, 2016. The facilitators and the students of the school were very much touched when a warm welcome was received from all the staff of the orphanage. Their Head Mistress shared information about the orphanage to our students. Niranjana and Sahana sang our school prayer song and Joginder Sai of Grade 2 shared a story about the importance of being confident. Students seemed to understand the kind of atmosphere the kids at the orphanage live in and they swore to help the needy when possible.

GRANDPARENT VISIT. Being able to demonstrate appropriate behavior when outside visitors are in the classroom creates opportunities for students to experience positive interactions with others. For our theme 'My Family' grandparents of Taarukeswar, K1A, Mrs. and Mr. Krishna visited our class and narrated a story for the kids. The visitor had a great time with them and he was delighted to receive a gift from the kids as a token of remembrance.

"Adding a furry or feathered friend to our life can be a wonderful thing"

Concern for animals helps to be a good human being and in turn they can be our best friends. Pets help us to relax and teach us to be kind. As part of the theme, 'Home', the kids were made to understand that pet animals too need a home to live in. The special day was spent building a **PET HOUSE.** Kids understood the values and ways to take care of pets.



PODS CONTEST

Grade 7A had their 'Corps Club Contest'. They had launched an exhibit to create awareness about Vanamahotsava. Each student presented beautiful art work with slogans to protect forest. Grade 7B had 'Budding Scientist Contest'. Young scientists were on action as they exhibited their scientific skills. Many new experiments were demonstrated with ease which proved their interest and enthusiasm.



VAN MAHOTSAV is an annual tree-planting festival in India. This movement was initiated in the year 1950 by India's Union Minister for Agriculture, Kulapati and Dr.K M Munshi. It has gained immense national importance and every year, millions of saplings are planted all across India in observation of the Van Mahotsav week.

Students of grade 1 and 5 passionately participated and shared their thought concerning Van Mahotsav.



Students of grade 6 and 7 showed curiosity in participating in their **FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT** activities. They excelled in reading, writing, model making and elocution.

It was assembly time for secondary on 13th July. Grade 10 students conducted an assembly on **WORLD POPULATION DAY** coinciding with the observation of it on 12th July. The assembly began with a prayer song followed by the theme introduction. The grade 10 girls enacted a model UN deliberating the issues related to population followed by a creative pyramid formation in reference to the crumbling economy with increasing population. There was an informative video presentation comprising a ticking population clock. The Grade 10 boys also enacted a skit with a strong message. The entire assembly was co-ordinated by Mr. Madhavan.



Thematic assembly was conducted as a tribute to the poet, **JOHN KEATS**. Students of Grade 9 enacted a mime about the impact of poems on the society. A video and Powerpoint Presentation on the life of John Keats were displayed. The assembly came to an end with a mesmerizing song by the boys of Grade 9.



THE SCIENCE EXPO

The Grade 8 students highlighted the concept of pressure and its application in the expo organized by them as a part of their FA. The students made toys using trash to explain the concepts of pressure. Students from grade 6 to 10 visited the expo. It was an enriching experience for the students who visited as the expo provided an opportunity to trigger their scientific spirit.

The Grade 10 students exhibited their engineering skills in electricity as a part of their FA. Solar powered boat and helicopter, theft prevention lighting, solar powered vehicle, a robot for domestic help were the working models constructed by the students comprising four groups. Grade 8-9 students were enthralled by their exhibits.



The **PODS CONTEST** for music and dance for Grade 8 students was conducted. The students had rigorously practiced and worked on their costume design. The contest was conducted in two categories – Solo and Group. The participants enthralled everyone with their performance. A tough competition prevailed and it was really a Himalayan task for the judges to select the best.



On Thursday, 7th August, 2016 the specialities of **RAKSHA BANDHAN** were discussed. To understand the festival better children were shown a video on the festival. To continue with the learning, kids made their own 'Rakhis' using different materials. The kids were encouraged to come out with their own patterns to make the Rakhi.

GRAND PARENTS DAY. Grand parents are special to every child. Their knowledge is invaluable and their love is unconditional. Our K3 kids got an opportunity to celebrate this grand day with their grandparents on 5th August, 2016 at our school premises. It was really a great time for them to realise the importance of the values of their grand parents.

Children celebrated the joys of making and having friends on Thursday, 5th August. **FRIENDSHIP DAY.** It was the perfect occasion to let the kids know how much friends are needed. Kids made their own friendship bands and exchanged amongst their friends. This was just a starting point which led to a discussions on friendship and behaviours.



We at Balsam Academy are lucky to have families from a variety of culture, and one of our goals is to foster tolerance and respect for other cultures and ethnicities. We chose to inculcate these values about our country by making kids to learn through Video and songs. The theme **DISCOVERY OF INDIA** was introduced on Tuesday, 2nd August, 2016. Through this, the kids are learning to love and respect their country. Students are being introduced to the rich culture and heritage of our country. We have been discussing our great leaders and their contribution to the country. Kids are being taught to honour and respect the National Flag and the National Anthem. They are learning to respect the national property and keep the country clean.

Human beings are blessed to express their feelings in different ways. Teaching kids about feelings as one of the most important life skills that teaches discipline. We had an assembly **THE WAY I FEEL** on 8th August. It helped them to interpret their own feelings and emotions and to interact appropriately with others.

INDEPENDENCE DAY is an annual National Festival that celebrates India's freedom. It is celebrated on 15th of August every year. We at Balsam celebrated it in a unique way by showcasing details about all the 29 states of India. They had the celebration from 8th August 2016 to 12th August 2016.

**Day-1**

- Famous cities during the colonial rule; not in highlight now
- State formation day and its importance

Day-2

- Tribal societies of the state
- Nobel laureates or global personalities of that state

Day-3

- Old and new names of the historical places
- Events of freedom struggle that took place in that state
- Strategic positioning and contribution of the state to the country's development

Day-4

- Geographical wonders of the state like plateaus, falls, lakes, etc...
- Presence of the state people in various other countries and their migratory history

Day-5

- Traditional and uniqueness - food recipes, dress, music, dance, architecture, paintings, art and craft, sports, monuments, etc.

This celebration was marked as a tribute to our national leaders who sacrificed their lives for us. The students of Grade 6 & 7 came up with a skit to provoke that patriotism in their fellow partners. Grade 7B students sang a patriotic song "Vande Maataram".

The best students in the elocution were selected to give speeches on the topic **MY MOST INSPIRING FREEDOM FIGHTER**. Students picked leaders like Bhagat Singh and Subash Chandra Bose.



Colour plays a vitally important role in the world. Our K1 kids dressed up on 22nd August 2016 to celebrate **COLOURS**. These pretty tots recognized the colours and understood that it is an essential aspect they will be using for learning so many other things later in their lives. They finished the assembly by doing fun activities related to this colour.

Children enjoy going outdoors, digging soil, getting dirty, creating things and watching plants grow. We got a juncture to prove this on 12th August, 2016, in **GREEN PATCH**. They went to learn the types, uses and parts of plants. We also introduced the role of a greenhouse and how it nurtures the development and growth of plants.

The community helpers are those who often have a direct interaction with other members of the community and deliver a service that is critical for the well being of the community. Our K2 kids had an coherent **COMMUNITY HELPERS** day on 26th August. We invited some of the community helpers in order to share the importance of their roles and responsibilities to the kids and give them additional support to their learnings.



JANMASHTAMI, the birthday of Lord Krishna was celebrated with great devotion and enthusiasm. It brought much joy and feeling of unity. It was a really special day for worshipping Lord Krishna. Our K2 and K3 kids were dressed appropriately for this occasion on 24th August at our school premises. They enthusiastically recited the sloka and sang the song with the full of devotion.



"India is the cradle of the human race, the birthplace of human speech, the mother of history, the grandmother of legend, and the great grandmother of tradition. Our most valuable and most instructive materials in the history of man are treasured up in India only."



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The 70th Independence Day was celebrated on 15th August, 2016 with utmost patriotism and grandeur in Balsam Academy. The day started with the prayer song 'Tamizh thai vazhthu' by the school choir. The principal, Mrs. Chitra Madhavan and Mr. Madhavan, the Secondary Head received the Chief guest Dr. Peer, C.A. Abdul Hakeem College of Engineering, Melvisharam, Arcot. The welcome address was given by Mr. Madhavan followed by flag hoisting by our chief guest in the presence of our Principal, Secondary Head, P.E department, School Vice-captain and Sports captain. This was followed by flag song sung by Tamil teachers. The pledge was read out to everyone present by Ms. Asha of Grade 8.

The students lined up in their respective houses namely Alpines, Grands and Himalayan. They marched orderly to salute the National flag and to pay homage for the innumerable sacrifices made by our great freedom fighters. This was followed by a motivational speech by our chief guest who urged our students to understand the real essence of freedom and to join hands for the upliftment of our country. The Principal, Mrs. Chitra Madhavan thanked the chief guest for his effective speech and assured him to follow the guidelines put forth by him.

The Hindi patriotic song 'Suno gaur se' was sung by Grade 8 and Grade 9 girls to express their patriotic gesture towards the country. This was followed by graceful Fusion Dance by girls of Grade 6 and Grade 7. It brought the theme of integrity among the various states of our country. Vote of thanks was given by Ms. Sherin Sylvia of Grade 9. The programme concluded with The National anthem.

Enhancing logical skill for pre-primary is significant. With that notion, the theme **SHAPES** was being taught through activities, games, life skills and real life case studies. They had an opportunity to understand the world of shape and gained knowledge of its spatial use.

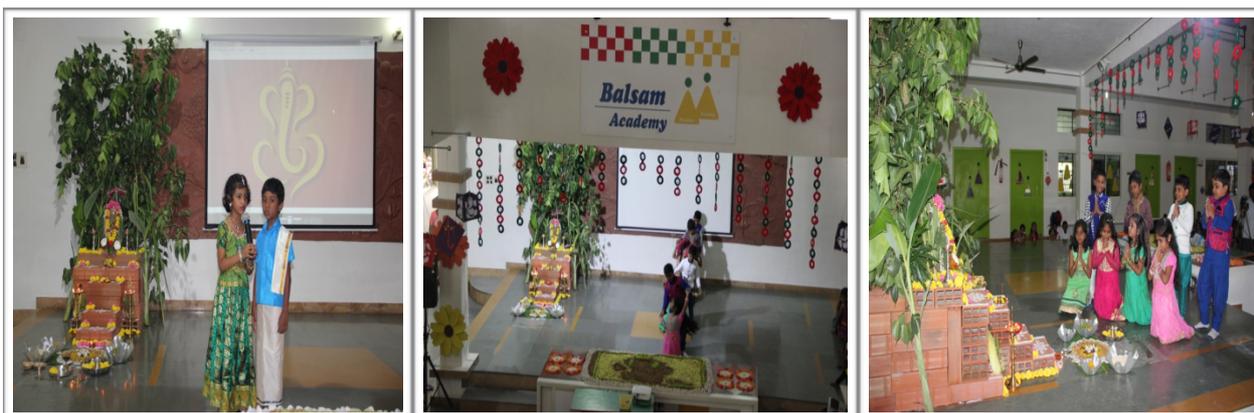
CLOTHING is important because it reflects an individual's culture, personality and preferences. A special day on clothes was there to highlight clothes worn in different seasons and had a talk on them. Student were dressed appropriately and it was pleasing to view.

Students gained knowledge about different types of **TRANSPORT** and their importance in our life. Children commute to school in different modes of transport. The pictures of different vehicles were classified in slots to know how many of them use two wheelers, four wheelers, by walk to school. They learnt to use appropriate vehicle for the desired distance. To enhance the learning, songs were sung to mutter most of the time. MI based activities were done during this process which helped them to understand the concept in short time.



SENSE ORGANS are crucial for the proper functioning the of human body. Learning about their uses, importance and how they maintain different parts of the body were in this process. In addition to that activities assigned to understand the importance senses and its function like sight, smell, taste, touch and hear.

The students of Balsam had a unique way to celebrate the nationally popular festival **GANESH CHATHURTHI**. Our kids have always had a sincere concern for fast degrading environment caused by air and water pollution. Kids therefore made the idols of their favourite God, Ganesh with non toxic clay and teachers with plain clay, without any chemical colours . The process of idol-making started a day before the celebration and on the day of Ganesh Chaturthi, the natural idols of Lord Ganesh were brought to the Multi-utility hall. Pooja began with a prayer followed by a devotional song by Grade 3 students, and a recital of shlokas in Sanskrit. A skit based on Ganesha's Childhood was staged. The skit gave a strong message to the students that parents equal to god. Mrs. Lallitha and Mrs. P. Sudha recited Ganesha Pancharatnam. At the end, Lord Ganesha's prasadam was distributed to all.



The students of grade 3 visited the **DISTRICT SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER** on Thursday, 29th August. The children were quite excited and thrilled about the trip ahead. The Exhibits dated from ancient times to the present day and all science related topics. Students were excited to see and try out various hands-on exhibits in the interactive science section of the museum. They had a firsthand experience of using and understanding the principles and working of various scientific exhibits. The Nobel gallery and Dinosaurium were a sight to marvel and overall the trip was an informative learning experience, both for the students and to the volunteers.



Teachers play a major role in making their students responsible citizens of tomorrow and good human beings. It is impossible to imagine our lives without teachers. To acknowledge the teachers' contribution to the society and to recognize their hard work, **TEACHERS' DAY** was celebrated at our school. On Friday, 2nd September all the teachers were invited for beautiful programme by SCB with beautiful flowers. The programme included dazzling dance and sizzling songs performed by the students.



Student workshop was conducted on the topic **BEAT THE EXAM** by our Principal, Mrs. Chitra Madhavan.

Pupils were given tips to work on their daily schedule, work flow at home and school, and how to face the exams without stress. The School Secretary also joined and threw light on their disciplinary issues that had direct effect on their grasping and reflected on their performance in the exam.

SQR3-FORMULA was taught to them to optimize their knowledge.

- S - Study
- Q - Question
- R - Review

To be followed minimum three times to taste the real success.

