



SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

BALSAM ACADEMY, RANIPET

OVERVIEW

STAFF STRENGTH	
Teaching Staff	47
Administrative Staff	9
Others	25
STUDENT STRENGTH	
Kindergarten	124
Primary School	470
Middle School	246
Secondary School	154

NUMBER OF NEW ADMISSIONS IN THE SESSION	
CLASS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS ADMITTED
LKG	53
UKG	9
1	14
2	11
3	6
4	6
5	5
6	3
7	2
8	1
9	1
10	1

CBSE RESULTS 2021 - 22 CLASS X

Total number of students appeared	66
Total number of students passed	66
Total number of Distinctions	31
Total number of First Divisions	29
Total number of Second Divisions	6
Total number of students failed/did not appear	Nil

SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS

SUBJECT	NAME OF THE STUDENT	PERCENTAGE
ENGLISH	PUSHPANATHAN R & SUBHASHREE V S	99%
TAMIL	SHARAN KARTHIK M & BHAVYAA SHRI K S	100%
HINDI	AYESHA MAHAKUD	90%
MATHEMATICS	NANDISH S	96%
SCIENCE	NANDISH S SHARAN KARTHIK M PUSHPANATHAN R JAYAVARSHAN A B MADESH R GAYATHRI U SUBASHREE V S YASHWANTH M M	95%
SOCIAL SCIENCE	GAYATHRI U & SUBHASHREE V S	99%

SCHOOL TOPPERS

NAME OF THE STUDENT	PERCENTAGE OF MARKS
PUSHPANATHAN R	96.6%
SUBASHREE V S	95.8%
SHARAN KARTHIK M	95.6%
GAYATHRI U	94.4%
NANDISH S	93.2%

DEMO FOR APRIL SESSION

All teachers were given opportunities in the beginning of the school year to prepare and present their teaching to the Core Committee of Balsam Academy to engage and provide joyful learning to the children in the month of April. It was mainly focused on the hands-on activities where children enjoy learning and develop their vocational skills.

ACADEMICS

The academic year 2021-2022 commenced with section wise online classes initially and later, a hybrid model of online as well as physical classes were introduced. Detailed guidelines were issued by the authority to be followed during this pandemic. Home Challenge materials were prepared for children to work in their homes during holidays. The activities planned were hands-on and practical in nature. Children took great interest and completed activities with enthusiasm beyond our expectations.

Teachers worked on refining the Annual Syllabi Plans (ASP) to integrate Learning Outcomes of Attitude, Skills and Knowledge along with NEP requirements of subject and art integration. Online Teaching Materials required for 2021-22 academic year were prepared. School Calendar, Implementation Calendar, Activity Calendar, Staff Allocation, Time Tables, Whole School Improvement Plan, Annual Pedagogical Plan, Subject Booklets, Grade Booklets and Staff Handbook were refined, updated and created. Job Descriptions were created for new positions and the old ones refined for new /modified roles. Few committees were merged for seamless execution of activities. Library activities were assigned to the English Department. Newsletters were published each month.

To enhance student engagement and learning, kinder teachers were moved up along with their classes to UKG and grade 1. Wherever possible, teachers moved up with their class and subject. The intention underlying this decision was to reduce the rapport and bond building time between teacher and the taught. Regular department meetings, level meetings, co-scholastic meetings and core team meetings were organised to eliminate communication gaps and seamless understanding of the Believe 2023 goals. Team members were encouraged to lead the meetings and leaders were encouraged to delegate with trust and accountability.

Teachers underwent external training to equip themselves to handle the teaching-learning process in a much more effective manner. Internal training in language development was conducted for the co-scholastics team. Teachers reviewed and evaluated online apps for easy and fun learning for children. Teachers were trained in using online tools and online teaching methods. The conduct of online classes was reconsidered. Rather than combining sections, each class /section would be taken up at a time. Online sessions were increased for better reach. Meeting slot was built into the weekly schedule to meet parents. Offline work would be duly assigned in Google Classrooms to engage children. Innovative Question Time was introduced this year for G6-10. Students requiring additional support and mentoring in grade 9 and 10 were identified. Mentors were assigned to such children to steadily improve their self-esteem and confidence. School counsellor worked closely with such children.

BEYOND ACADEMICS

Balsam Academy takes Co-curricular activities as an integrated part of education. Without these the overall progress of the child is not possible. Every child has a bundle of talent. Unless this talent is not discovered the child's progress remains incomplete. The Beyond Academic departments of Music, Arts, Health and Physical Education, Library, ICT and Work Education have been engaging the students with activities year long.

Level-wise and House wise activities (newsletter, assemblies, celebrations etc) were conducted to enhance students' leadership skills, vocabulary and to create awareness about National and International Days. It is a matter of pride that, along the Beyond Academics curriculum, the subject teachers have integrated activities - article writing, elocution, storytelling, singing, craft work, painting, art to name a few; that help students to develop problem-solving, reasoning, critical thinking, creative thinking, communication and collaborative abilities.

The celebrations calendar for the academic year concluded on a happy note with Kindergarten Graduation and Appreciation and Awards Day for Grade 1 to 10.

SCHOOL EVENTS

'It always seems impossible until it is done'

It was an amazing year with online and offline events. We came up with best ideas to engage and support children in hybrid mode. Click on the link how the school community embraced the challenges in conducting the events. LINK-[SCHOOL EVENTS](#)

CLASS ACTIVITIES

LEVEL 1A(KINDERGARTEN):

- Children in early childhood learn predominantly through stories. In Balsam, children listen to stories intently and imitate the language. After the stories, children express the concepts through art. They verbalise the story by looking at the pictures drawn and making sentences out of them. It is astounding to see the little ones communicate with prolific vocabulary.
- Learning through nature brings happiness. The holistic, practical experiences are not only joyous parts, but also give an unparalleled basis for comprehending the world in great ways. Our little butterflies of grade1 investigated the various directions by following the safety measures in every activity they did. Children love to explore new ways of writing in different mediums and sand tracing the different words provided an immense pleasure to them.
- 2021-22 was a year of wonder for us. Christmas will always be as long as we stand heart to heart and hand in hand" Jingle bells twinkled the hallways of our campus as Christmas joy filled the air. Children dressed up in Christmas colours of red, green, and white. The story of the birth of Jesus Christ was shared with children. Children made snowmen using cotton reminiscing the spirit of Christmas. Ms.Vidhyashree our sports teacher, became the most loved Santa Clause. Children spent time looking at the Christmas crib.

LEVEL 1B(G1&2):

- We often get confused with words with the same pronunciation, but different meanings. Our grade1 kids displayed confidence in their learning of various homophones. Everything in life is art and children experienced the concept by touching and feeling the objects related to the words. Homophones were introduced through story and art. Children understood the concept and started identifying homophones in every part of their learning activities.
- Experiences using non-standard units to measure the length help children connect measurement with everyday objects. It prepares them for using standard measurement tools and units. G1 children measured the length using hand span, foot span and pace. They enjoyed measuring the length with their family members and recording their measurements in their notebooks. Discussed the way they got the different numbers. In a class, we discussed what each member measured and the nonstandard unit they used to measure it.

LEVEL 2:

- The joy and excitement could clearly be sensed as the ‘Nuts Ladoo Making” activity was organized for the students of G3 on 23rd February 2022. Children couldn’t wait to taste their delicious creations and there was a sense of pride and joy on the faces of the children because they put their tiny hands at work and made something independently and the results were absolutely amazing. They enjoyed making the “laddoos” and eating it too!
- Grade 5 children have explored more about the pattern by creating their own designs using different objects around them. Grade 3 children have learnt about the shapes and the sides, edges and corners. Children feel, touch and count the number of sides, edges and corners in an object. Also, they’ve understood that a circle doesn’t have any edges or corners.

LEVEL 3:

- Geography is important. Imagine trying to describe Asia to someone who had no idea where in the world it’s located. Geographical location provides us with context. It’s important to know where the seven continents are located and what their characteristics are. The students of Grade 6 are learning about the Domains of the Earth. To locate the 7 continents also to know the size of the continents students were asked to do various activities such as grid counting and Jigsaw puzzle. It helped the students to play and learn about the continents easily.
- Paper folding activity: Exponents are important in Math because they allow us to abbreviate something that would otherwise be really tedious to write. Students were given an activity to learn about exponents and powers through paper folding. In a time-bound event, students of grade 7 created and completed the activity which was evaluated on the basis of creativity, usability, and understanding. This is a fun filled activity-based learning. [Paper Folding](#)
- Students of Grade 7 explored about various Tribal arts of India m as Dhokra in West Bengal, Pattachitra from Orissa, Madhubani Painting of Bihar, Kalamkari Painting Andhra Pradesh, Block Printing in villages of Rajasthan and Gujarat, Rabari Embroidery of Gujarat, Zari work of Rajsthan, Masks of Majuli, Assam, Kushamandi Masks or Mukha of West Bengal, Sitalpati - Cool Mats of Bengal and Tripura, Madur Craft of Bengal, Sholapith- the Malakars of Bengal, Stone Artefacts of Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu, Terracotta - The ancient BakedClay-Art.They have drawn Gond Art as art Integration.

LEVEL 4:

- The virtual skit is an indispensable tool to enhance students' cognitive, affective and motor development. This Competition does not only strengthen students' confidence to face the audience but also helps in developing awareness about our surroundings and the daily happenings. The activity was organised virtually for Grade 9 students to enhance imagination skills, powers of creative expression, linguistic skills. The competition was greatly helpful and encouraging in boosting Moral Values. Grade 9 students skillfully prepared their skit on the story 'the beggar'. All the teams were at their creative best. The powerful performances of the budding actors transported the audience to the realm of cinema. The activity was thoroughly entertaining and inculcated the moral values in young buddies' minds.
- To encourage students to learn the topics by doing, project work on 'Natural Vegetation and Wild Life' was assigned to G9 students. Students displayed their creativity, reasoning ability and critical thinking skills while doing the assigned work. Students used only natural items to complete the project. Students completed their projects by keeping all the rubrics in mind and it has enhanced their learning motivation and improved the learning outcomes.
- Learners come from different backgrounds to enhance the involvement of the learners in the classrooms, especially to tackle the mood swings of adolescents, Experiential Learning helps the facilitator to attain the desired learning outcomes. For G-10 on the lesson, 'Glimpses of the Past: Goa' the following activities were followed: Children were asked to design the poster using the description given in the context. Challenge is they should use words as outlines to sketch their picture. Students were asked to make a recipe of Goa's festive related food and also, they should explain the origin. Mr. Dinesh Kumar, ICT Head, Mr Sivakumar, English Dept., Mr Toji Jose, Social Dept., Ms Sujatha, Tamil Dept. Head graced the event and judged the student based on the rubrics announced.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

- Balsam has developed sixteen clubs Heritage, Book, Spell Bee, Poetry, Writing, Tourism, MUN, Earth, Math, Alchemists, Tech, Fitness, Music, Visual Art, Dance, Culinary. for Grade VI to X wherein the students participate in their choice of activities and showcase their abilities. The student can opt for any club as per their interest and caliber. The President and Vice President have been selected by the club owners. They are guided by their club owners on planning the club activities. The clubs run from July and the respective club members shared their ideas and enjoyed learning from each other during the club periods. The sessions were conducted every Saturday. The students demonstrated the ability to work in teams and actively participate in various school clubs.

INTER SCHOOL COMPETITIONS

CBSE - Reading Challenge

The Central Board of Secondary Education organised the CBSE Reading Challenge 3.0 in English for students of classes Grade to 10. This challenge was conducted on the DIKSHA platform. Balsamites participated in this reading challenge. The ICT department has made demo videos and created students' individual IDs and passwords to take up this challenge on the DIKSHA platform. The English facilitators shared the demo video in the Google classroom and IDs and passwords individually to the

students. There were two modules in the reading challenge. The first module provided an introduction to the CBSE Reading Challenge 3.0 course and the second module was the CBSE Reading Challenge 3.0. All the students who completed Reading Challenge 3.0 were provided a participation certificate. The students from grade 6-10 actively participated, and the Reading Challenge encouraged the children to hone their reading skills and improve their self-confidence.

Art Mania Contest

"Art Mania Contest' intra school competition for students of grade 1 to grade 10 was held in the month of January on the theme 'Swachh Bharat School of My Dreams'. The poster announcing the event, themes and art form was posted in Google classrooms and received 242 entries for the contest. The shortlisted entries were evaluated by Art Department of Balsam Academy, based on the specified criteria. Top three winners from were announced for each grade on 23rd March, 2022.

Speech Contest

Public speaking is not limited to competition, it evolves in making the most sensible leader for the future to rejoice. Such a speaker will be a lantern to illuminate across the unprecedented dark times. All lanterns need a spark to be lit, spark is what we provided. The evolution is a bliss to perceive and what else a teacher wants than to see a student shine on the stage. A fortnight was taken to meet the finalists, and hard days indeed. The topics were changed in every round, pushing them to explore a new dimension.

All the speaking skills that we have been incorporating through various collaborative activities delight us and ensure that we are on track in making future leaders. Students got to observe every individual's perception on the topic, gesture, enunciation, and mastery over the language helping them to discover a new path to develop their skills. The top three winners were awarded with certificates on Awards day.

The Inspire Awards - Manak

T.Mageshwaran of G10 presented his idea on Eco system (Carbon absorber) for The INSPIRE Awards - MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge), being executed by DST with National Innovation Foundation - India (NIF) and got selected in State level and moving forward towards National level.

INTRA SCHOOL COMPETITIONS

Young Innovator Contest:

The primary objective of this contest was to ignite young minds to work on innovative ideas to resolve the current burning issue across our planet - "**Climatic Science**". Climate change has far-reaching effects on our planet, from increasing the frequency and intensity of many extreme weather events, including flooding and drought, to changing sea temperature, ocean acidity, and sea level. Through this contest, students got an opportunity to apply concepts such as the greenhouse effect, weather variables, and thermohaline circulation to model how climate science on the whole impacts the atmosphere, the oceans, and human communities.

The contest sub-themes for students to pick, explore and delve deeper into finding practical, feasible and local solutions are listed below. The budding innovators invested their time and intelligence to present solutions to tackle the issues in our environment. The day was made remarkable by the participation of 10 individuals from five different schools (Vedavalli Vidyalaya, DAV BHEL, Balsam Academy, Bright Minds Vidhyodaya and Vidyapeetam School) Maheswaran. T of Balsam Academy won 1st prize of Rs.7500 and Moksha. A of Balsam Academy and Vasantha Kumaran. D of Vedavalli Vidyalaya won 2nd prize of Rs.5000 and Krithik Amarnath of Vedavalli Vidyalaya won 3rd prize of Rs. 2,500.

Special Assembly

- To cherish the importance of special days we organized assembly in order to sow the need and importance of International Mathematics Day. Mathematics can be tough sometimes, so can many things in life. Mathematics is the only subject which shows that problems have solutions. Mathematics can be fun, challenging, hands on and applicable in real life. To celebrate the spirit of mathematical learning, experience the joy of the mathematical sphere and to explore various mathematical concepts in a creative manner, Math Day was celebrated in Balsam Academy on Wednesday, 22 December'2021. Backed by a rigorous planning, the grade 9 students successfully conducted a fun-filled celebration of Math that brought forth maximum participation from students.
- To begin with, a special assembly was conducted on 22nd December 2021 through google meet where all the class students joined the virtual assembly through their class ICR boards to make the assembly more interactive. Students of Grade 9 shared information and interesting facts about the Mathday caused quite a buzz amongst the students at the bus bay. Students were seen to take up the challenge that was kept hidden in their classrooms. Class I to III enjoyed by taking up the challenge of reverse counting based on the age group and same was exhibited in the evening boarding time, Class IV to VI enjoyed making songs for Tables 6 to 8 which helped others to learn the table in a creative way. Class VII & VIII students were challenged to involve themselves to find the next greatest Hardy Ramanujan's number.

STUDENT COUNCIL BODY(SCB)

Student Council Body (SCB) of Balsam Academy, set in motion for this academic year, in the month of April 2021. A manual for SCB consisting of the by-laws, aims, objectives and procedures is designed to guide the current and future members. The Virtual Investiture Ceremony was held on 21st of June. Sashes and badges were bestowed to twelve appointed leaders. School Principal, Mr.Prabakaran, addressed and congratulated the newly appointed school council members. Members took the oath. The Chief Guest for the event was Shri Gopal Kulkarni, member of the School Management Committee. His words of wisdom were 'Service before Self' and he urged the leaders to embrace their duties with humility, responsibility, perseverance, and loyalty.

WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS

Role of teachers in schools is certainly crucial, but extremely dynamic too. Teachers need to adjust their teaching with the ever-evolving educational goals and at the same time deal with infinite variations in students, each of whom is unique. In such a scenario continuous professional quality development of teachers becomes absolutely indispensable to respond to the changing needs of the students and system. As a competent and well-performing teacher is the most important resource in maintaining desirable standard of education, schools also benefit immensely by investing in capacity building programmes of teachers and in turn achieving the status of most sought-after school.

Training by experts, peer-training, self-learning and demonstrations was the approach adopted. Teachers further shared the knowledge with other fellow teachers widening the sphere of wisdom. The ongoing CPD sessions provided at Balsam stands phenomenal! The sessions set a remarkable change in the attitude of teachers towards the learning environment and refined their abilities, knowledge and aspirations. The teachers equipped themselves with the recent trends in the educational field. These sessions also provided a platform for regular interaction and discussion among the faculty members to upgrade their professional skills.

WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

The purpose of providing education for our children goes beyond making them employable but it includes helping them to develop right attitudes. Balsam Academy attempts to a co-operative approach with the parents by conducting an 'Education for Tomorrow' workshop to educate that learning in the school must be supplemented and enriched by the activities of parents at home.

It is mandatory that every parent should attend this workshop to get admissions. This year we conducted it in the month of December, January and February for kindergarten to Graders. The workshop prepared parents to equally demonstrate commitment to education by establishing conducive environment at home. While the school teaches moral values, parents are to complement the efforts by inculcating right values and norms for children at home.

WALDORF INSPIRED TEACHER TRAINING(WITT)

'To develop free human beings, Balsam initiated the WITT program in February 2022. The objective of this training is to familiarize teachers and parents with stages of child development. The concepts discussed in this training are:

- Child Psychology and Development
- Personality Development
- Learning and Teaching styles
- Assessment and Holistic Report Card
- Case Study and Child Observation

We explore the seven-year cycles of child development. First seven years is where the physical body develops and hence there is need for movements. The second seven years is for emotional or life body to develop that requires inputs for vivid imagination and conversations. The last seven years of child development is for intellectual or astral body to take form. We study the important of rhythm, reverence, and repetition. When the first three cycles of child development are addressed with utmost care and love, we are helping the child become a free human being, capable of imparting purpose and direction to their lives. Personality Development is a combination of temperaments and the environment in which we are raised. We do not have much control over temperaments, however, the environment can be created for a beautiful personality to evolve.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

The SMC meeting was convened in the month of May and January to govern and review the activities and policies of the school to ensure consistency with the requirement of Board and State Law.

PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL:

PTC was formed for the year 2021-22 with new members to develop and engage in activities which support the students and school. They were asked to represent the school to the other parents to ensure full cooperation in total school program.

PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Our parents Ms. Sabeena Begum & Ms. Nalinie Mohankumar contributed learning materials on “[Family words](#) and [Pre-Number concepts](#)”. Our sincere gratitude to them. We appreciate Ms. Sabeena Begum for video on [Eid-e-Milad](#) Sabeena Begum Parent of Sara Aiman (UKG A) Nalinie Mohankumar Parent of Rithvikaa (UKG A) M.

PREPARENESS OF SAFE REOPENING

It was necessary to be proactive to keep the school system ready for safe re-opening. Staff members were trained on behavioural and physical safety by School Nurse. The admin team drafted detailed protocols for each scenario like Entry/Exit norms, Sanitization norms, Visitors policy, Social distancing norms, Classroom protocols, break rules, Transport protocols etc.,

Seating arrangements plan for students with social distancing was made. Timetables for alternate day working and shift day working were made by the Vice Principal.

Children and staff members were screened for the temperature. COVID 19 related health and hygiene SOPs were followed and records were maintained.

RENEWALS AND COMPLIANCE

As mandated by the CBSE board and State Government, the school has renewed the following certificates and licenses from relevant authorities during the Academic year 2021-22.

1. Fire Safety Certificate No objection certificate
2. Sanitary Certificate
3. Drinking Water Certificate
4. Structural Soundness Certificate - Form A, B&C
5. Building License - Form D

MAINTENANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE/ASSETS

Good natural conditions such as lighting, air quality and disinfected campus as mandated in the COVID-19 SOPs were followed to ensure safety of staff and the students during their visit to campus in the month of September, December, January, February and March.

All the assets were maintained monthly to avoid overhauling expenses due non/less usage in the absence of students. Equipment such as Generator, RO plant, Pumps & motors, Surveillance cameras, Furniture, Electrical and electronic products were maintained well during the pandemic.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE NEXT YEAR

Balsam Academy has an extensive 5 years strategic plan with clear objectives set for each year in the form of Whole School Improvement Plan. This serves as a roadmap in building a world class school system. The WSIP and Newsletters are uploaded in the school website.