

IMAGINE

Take a leap of faith and begin this wondrous New Year by believing. Believe in yourself. And believe that there is a loving Source - a Sower of Dreams - just waiting to be asked to help you make your dreams come true.

- Sarah Ban Breathnach

A New Year often brings with it resolutions and renewed enthusiasm to try something new, get a little fitter and meet more people. Our children set off with lot of resolutions that shall reflect in their scholastic and co-scholastic progression. The year began with lot of fun filled events and activities such as contest for middle students.

Young scientists of Grade 6A demonstrated their technical vehemence in the **BUDDING SCIENTIST CONTEST** while students of Grade 6B revealed their artistic ability in the **POSTER MAKING CONTEST**. A great poster isn't about a great aesthetic, it's about a clever idea that's skinned with a great aesthetic and our students did just that.



Graders 7A delivered with flair for innovation and creativity in the **FANCY AD CONTEST** while Graders 7B participated in the **YOUNG ANIMATOR CONTEST**, designed and made presentations of the cartoon characters that they created integrating technology.



GRADE 6A

- Mohammed Uwaise.V
- Thanulekha .D
- Prithika.P

GRADE 6B

- Sivaranjani.R
- Suparna .V
- Pavishree .S

GRADE 7A

- Sadhurthika.N
- Sakthiswar.M
- Swathee.K

GRADE 7B

- Samyuktha Sakthi .S
- Monesh .B
- Hazel Andrea. J



PARENT-TEACHER'S MEETING was conducted across all levels to discuss about the student's development, growth and progress in academics. It was a great opportunity to get parents involved in education. The parents expressed joy and also shared their concerns.



PROJECT SHOWCASE

Grade 5 to 8 students enthralled the audience on Jan 12th with their exceptional talents. The School was decked up to witness the project showcase. Parents and visitors entered the campus with curiosity to learn, appreciate and encourage the young learners to aim even higher.....

The topics they worked on were:

Grade 5 - Force

Grade 6A - Landforms

Grade 6B - Fractions

Grade 7 - Mystery

Grade 8 - Energy

The display was an inspiring collection of art and exhibits related to topics to enrich the visitors and student community. The feedback was overwhelming and instigated the students and teachers to excel in the years to come.

To enhance activity-based learning, the students of G8 showcased their projects based on the topic "Energy". Group and individual projects were a part of the display. The group projects were based on Power Plant Models.

The individual projects were experimental in nature and ranged from burglar alarm, projector, production of hydroelectric power, speed breaker models to solar powered cars and gadgets. To add on, students also displayed posters to enrich the project showcase. Over all, it served as a platform for displaying the students' artistic, scientific, social and language skills where parents' appreciation motivated them to raise to the roof.





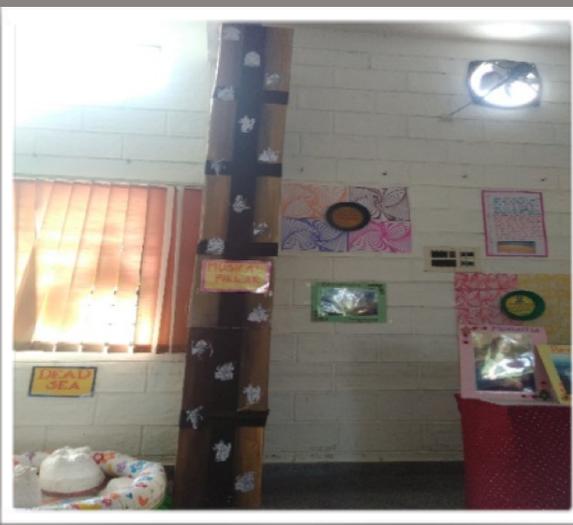
Palk Strait



Hanging Pillar

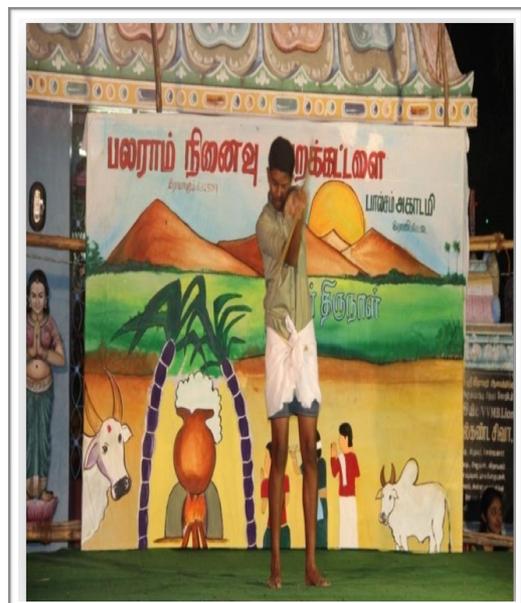


Board presentation



Music Pillar

On the eve of Pongal, one of the most important popular Hindu festivals of the year we organized Cultural evening for the villagers in Eranthangal Village. This we did under the aegis of our Trust. The students of G9 highlighted the painstaking efforts made by the farmers through 'Villu Paatu'. This was followed by a scintillating 'Kulavai Song' by the G10 girls and 'Silambaatam' by G 9 & 10 boys. Subha Aarthy of G10 shared the significance of the day and the curtain was pulled down with vote of thanks delivered by Kalaiyarasi of G9. The students of Balsam brought a new zeal to the work of farmers in Eranthangal village who were preparing for the 'Harvest festival'.



பலராம் நினைவு அறக்கட்டளையின் நிர்வாக அறங்காவலர் மற்றும் பால்சம் பள்ளியின் தாளாளருமான திருமதி சரோஜா பலராம் அம்மா அவர்களின் வழிநடத்தலின் பேரில் பலராம் நினைவு அறக்கட்டளையும் பால்சம் அகாடமியும் இணைந்து பல்வேறு சமுதாய நற்பணிகளை நிகழ்த்திக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. இதன் தொடர்ச்சியாக பசுமையை போற்றும் வகையில், 'பலராம் அறக்கட்டளையின்' நிர்வாகி திரு. சுந்தர் ஐயா அவர்களின் வழிநடத்தலில் 12.1.2017 அன்று ஏரந்தாங்கல் கிராமத்தில் மாலை 6.00 மணியளவில், தைத்திருநாள் விழா பால்சம் பள்ளி மாணவர்களால் நடத்தப்பட்டது.

விழாவின் சிறப்பம்சமாக வில்லுப்பாட்டு நிகழ்ச்சியில் விவசாயிகளின் நலம் பேணும் வகையில் 'இயற்கை மாசு படாமல் காத்தல்' வேண்டும் என்ற கருத்துகள் முக்கியத்துவம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. இதன் மூலம் இயற்கை வளமானது பாதுகாக்கப்படும் என்ற விழிப்புணர்வு மக்களிடையே வழங்கப்பட்டது.

விவசாயிகளே நம் நாட்டின் முதுகெலும்பு. அவர்கள் இல்லையேல், உயிர்களே இல்லை. இயற்கை வளம் காப்போம்! ஒன்றாக இணைவோம்! என்ற வரிகளுக்கேற்ப விழாவானது சிறப்பாக நடந்தேறியது. ஏரந்தாங்கல் கிராமத்தில் இவ்விழாவை நடத்துவதற்கு வழிகோரிய ஊர் பெரியோர்களுக்கு நன்றி தெரிவிக்கப்பட்டு. விழாவானது இரவு 8.00 மணியளவில் இனிதே நிறைவுற்றது.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT, 21st January, 2017. With the big intention of fostering professional safety measures and practices, the school management under the guidance of our beloved Correspondent, Mrs. Saroja Balaram along with the Trustees took no time in initiating the process of equipping the team with necessary skills for Disaster Management.

Balsam Academy took pride in joining hands with the Centre for Disaster and Mitigation Management(CDMM), Vellore Institute of Technology to conduct a comprehensive sensitization program on disaster management with the expertise shared.

Dr. G.P.Ganapathy, Director, CDMM, VIT, Vellore had consented to moderate the session and deliver the lecture. Ms. Sheeja Joy, Staff Nurse, Emergency Care and Medicine, CMC, Vellore also chipped in as a resource person along with Dr.Ganapathy to throw light on emergency care at the times of disaster.

On behalf of our beloved Correspondent, Management, Trustees, Staff and students, our school principal, Mrs.Chitra Madhavan welcomed the resource team followed by a lecture by Dr.Ganapathy through a power point presentation which highlighted on the areas of disasters like earthquakes, cyclones, floods and chemical disasters. He disseminated a wide range of information creating awareness on the management of disasters. Dr. Ganapathy also demonstrated some evacuation tips at the end. He also presented a video on preventive measures and safety tips during various disasters. This was followed by a session on emergency care by Ms.Sheeja Joy. She drew attention towards common first aid tips and management during emergencies through a power point presentation. The presentation exhibited some medical injuries and causative agents and the first-aid practices to be ensured during the initial hour.



The students were also given demonstration on hands-on-activity. The programme came to an end with vote of thanks by the SCB president Ms.Cindrella. Overall, it was an informative session and proved to be an eye-opener .

National Voter's Day, 25th January. The Founding Day of Election Commission of India is also observed as National Voter's Day. The students of G9 created awareness by using their model of electronic voting machine. The students were divided into three groups. The first group demonstrated EVM in all the classrooms and the second and third group brought awareness among the teaching and non-teaching staff.



“Connect today, Transform tomorrow. It's not just our mission. It's our wish for you”

Alumni Reunion, 26th January. Republic Day turned out to be a very eventful day as it saw a flurry of events like Alumni Day, Reunions, Republic Day celebrations and fun games. The school hosted lunch followed by a PPT presentation to bring back their nostalgic memories. “The essence of nostalgia is an awareness that what has been will never be again”. Our trustee Mr. Sundar released the Alumni Bye-laws. The Secondary teachers were honoured by the Correspondent for their contribution towards consistently producing good results in the Board Examination.





Republic Day

Republic Day was celebrated by the staff and students of Balsam Academy with patriotic fervor. The students of G9 began with the school prayer. Mrs. Sajora Balam, the school correspondent hoisted the national flag as the flag song was sung by all. The School Head spoke to the gathering about the sanctity of the occasion and the role played by the Constitutional makers. She also threw light on various tasks to be undertaken by the present students who are the future citizens of the country. The Republic Day message was delivered by the School President Joselin Diana Cinderella and Pledge for the nation led by Ms. Krisheega Varsha of G9. Grade 7 students treated the gathering with some spectacular musical feats. Grade 6 and 7 girls did their bit with a scintillating classical dance performance. The celebration continued with National song and anthem presented by Grade 9 students.



Sports Carnival

It was that eagerly-anticipated time of the year again with Balsam team coming together to organize and celebrate its Sports Carnival.. The event was officially opened by the chief guest Dr. M.Vijaya Rani waved the flag and inaugurated the carnival themed Skill O' Fun.

The chief guest inspired us with her impeccable speech on modern day parenting. Sports help in improving both physical and mental strength, students were encouraged to display their ability through different games. This event provided ample opportunity for a healthy environment. Excitement and joy was a part of this breath-taking event to the credit of all the family members of Balsam.



Morning activity – a cherished part of the school day loaded with exercises for the brain and the body. Brain Gym Exercises and Yoga were conducted for primary students. Students practiced Asanas such as Yegapaathasana, Kathichakrasana and Thandaasana under the supervision of Physical Trainers.



Class Projects. Kids worked on class projects with creativity for as part of their assessment and shared the information they gathered in the classroom across subjects with great interest with very little assistance from their teachers.



Rubella Vaccination Camp. Balsam Academy organized the vaccination camp in the premises on 14th Feb 2017 as directed by the Central and State Government. The parents cooperated and aided in successful completion too.

National Science Day was celebrated to commemorate and honour the Pride of India, Sir. C.V. Raman. The students were enlightened on the life history of C.V. Raman and contributions made by him in the field of science. The theme for science day was 'Science and Technology' for disabled people. The students were highlighted on the various inventions to help the specially disabled people through a video presentation.

The stage also witnessed a group of budding scientists presenting their projects ranging from working models to scientific crafts from trash. A quiz was also conducted for the audience. The objective of science day was to kindle the spirit of scientific temperament. The students presented a PPT on the evolution of life and described its various periods. The celebration ended up with children sharing a few amazing facts on science.



Rain Water Harvesting. Every drop of rain water is a blessing of God. Fresh rain water falls on the ground like pearls, so everyone should understand the importance of rain water. Rain water harvesting is a technique used for collecting and storing rainwater by using various means in different resources for the future use. To educate the K3 kids about the importance of rainwater harvesting, a special theme was displayed with different activities to educate them. They were engaged with various hands on activities, rally, drama, collage work etc.



It was interesting to watch the kids work on the theme - water and its conservation. Save water was an initiative to promote water conservation among students in order to store for the future. Scarcity of potable water has become one of the dreadful problems in India and the world affecting people's lives in many ways. Kids appealed in a big way and promised to make a huge impact by starting from home.

“Every child is gifted. They just unwrap their packages at different times”

School Production - ONCE UPON A TIME...AHEAD

The stage is a perfect venue for children to showcase their inherent abilities and talents through an array of entertaining programs. Balsam Academy presented 'Once upon a Time...Ahead' on 2nd March 2017 with lot of enthusiasm and fervor. The event was diligently organized. There was a soul to it - a soul that was vibrant, contagious and exuberant. **Mrs. Geetha Subramanian**, The Kathalaya Academy of Storytelling, Bangalore arrived on time along with the Chief Guests **Mrs. Saroja Balaram** our Correspondant, **Mr. K. Sundar** and **Ms. R. Anitha**, our Trustees and were received by the **Mrs. Chitra Madhavan**, Head of the School.

Across time and culture, stories have been agents of personal transformation – in part because they change our brains. Students of Primary level proved by being agents of personal transformation and the audience dived into the depth of music, dance, lights and joy and made us travel along with excitement and surprises all through the show.



“Sow the seeds of hard work, determination and endurance and reap the rewards of achievements, success and self- fulfillment.”

Balsam team nailed it once again.

Graduation Day. Balsam Academy is dedicated to ensuring that the grade 10 students are college ready. We proudly send them into the next season of their lives and assure to stand behind them as they move forward and we thank them for the wonderful years they spent with us.

Awards Day**“Recognition is the beginning of consciousness”**

This year too, our stage was festooned as we witnessed the annual awards day. The students who excelled in various fields were held the prestigious awards such as Big leap, Nurturer, Scholar, Inventive thinker, Computer whiz and so much more.

The students who contested in Evolving Minds and Sports and Games (inter-house contests) were recognized and honored.

“Virtually every type of expected tangible reward made contingent on task performance does, in fact, undermine intrinsic motivation”

– Deci and Ryan

Part of our school goal is “to recognize, develop and maximize potential”, so a decision has been made by the management that will change the way we end the year at Balsam. We shall not just recognize those that excel in specific areas, we shall recognize Each student for the areas in which he/she excels.

Year-end message:

We come to the end of another incredible, and busy school year here at Balsam. And what a year it has been! We are so proud to be able to serve the wonderful studnets and the community.

We know that the significant strengths we now have need to continue to grow week on week, month on month and year on year and we must not relax our efforts in this aspect.

We wish you all an exellent summer, and loof forward to many more years ahead.

With very best wishes

Team Balsam