## IMAGINE



BALSAM ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE: ART GALLERY

This edition of our newsletter marks the culmination of months filled with growth, learning, and memorable experiences. From the early days of acclimatizing our youngest learners to the school environment to the academic achievements and personal milestones of our graduating seniors, each moment has been a testament to the dedication and resilience of our entire school community.

Throughout the year, we've remained steadfast in our commitment to providing a supportive learning environment where every student can thrive. Our vision to maximize potential and our mission to foster holistic growth have guided our endeavours, shaping every lesson taught, every project undertaken, and every smile shared. As we look back on the successes and challenges, we are reminded of the unwavering support and collaboration of our students, parents, faculty, and staff.

We extend our deepest gratitude to each member of our community for their continued dedication and support. Together, we have created a vibrant and nurturing educational ecosystem where curiosity is sparked, talents are cultivated, and dreams are nurtured. As we embark on a well-deserved summer break, let us carry the memories of this year's achievements and camaraderie with us, fuelling our anticipation for the adventures that lie ahead.

To our graduating students, we bid you farewell with pride and anticipation for the bright futures you will undoubtedly create. To those returning next year, we eagerly await the opportunity to continue this journey of growth and excellence together. As we close this chapter and prepare for the next, let us cherish the memories we've made and look forward to the boundless possibilities of the future.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM: Gardening and harvesting



YOGA

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GRADE 8 STUDENTS SHOWCASING CULINARY CREATIVITY

## **SCHOLASTIC STORIES**

#### **KINDERGARTEN**

During **Pongal**, our kindergarteners shared delicious meals with their friends, reflecting the festival's spirit of joy and togetherness. This heartwarming exchange strengthened their bonds and added a special touch to Kaanum Pongal.

Children dressed up as freedom fighters for **Republic Day** as they explored the heroic stories, understanding sacrifices, and expressing themselves. It fostered confidence, patriotism, and appreciation for their bravery.



**REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS** 

We took part in a program led by Ms. Aadhithya called **"Kathabhoomi"** which aimed to help students improve their reading skills. Our approach involved daily practice to help them read more fluently, using flashcards to learn new words and doing drawing activities. We are happy to say that we have seen a significant improvement in the students' ability to read simple sentences with the help of pictures. Weekly assessments have confirmed their progress consistently.

**NATURE ART:** The children engaged in an activity to connect with their environment and improve focus. They drew observations of nature such as stems, leaves, flowers, and birds. Some of them even drew creatively, which promoted well-being through self-expression and mindfulness. This activity was similar to a meditation exercise, instilling calmness and a sense of connection with nature.

At our first ever **Open House** that took place on February 24th, the creativity of children was put on display through art inspired by nature. Using materials such as leaves, twigs, and sticks, they crafted a variety of items, including boats, houses, and woven projects. They also explored different techniques such as spray painting and wet-on-wet, which helped to foster their creativity and improve their focus, hand-eye coordination, and fine motor skills. Parents were delighted to see their children's artwork showcased at the event.



BALSAM ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE 2023-24

#### **GRADE 1**

**SCIENCE:** First-grade students had an amazing experience learning about plants in their EVS class by engaging in hands-on activities such as observing and collecting different plant parts, exploring various types of plants, and creating clay models. This interactive and enjoyable approach made learning a fun-filled experience, sparking curiosity and ingraining a deep appreciation for the natural world.



**ENGLISH:** The students were tasked with creating their own storybooks. Weaving together their budding writing and illustration talents, they were able to put down some truly imaginative tales. This exciting activity not only boosted their creativity but also their love for reading.

#### எழுத்துகளை இனங்கண்டு வார்த்தை உருவாக்குதல்

ஒரு பெட்டியில் அனைத்து பக்கங்களிலும் பல்வேறு வகையான எழுத்துக்கள் எழுதப்பட்டிருக்கும் இவ்வாறு மூன்று பெட்டிகள் மாணவர்களிடம் கொடுக்கப்படும். கொடுக்கப்படும் மூன்று பெட்டிகளை பயன்படுத்தி மாணவர்கள் வார்த்தைகளை உருவாக்க வேண்டும் இச்செயந்திரனை மாணவர்கள் ஆர்வத்துடன் ஈடுபட்டனர். இச்செயல்திறன் மூலம் எழுத்துகளின் வடிவம் ,உச்சரிப்பு, குறில், நெடில் வேறுபாடு அறிந்து கொண்டனர்.

#### சொல்லோவியம்

பாடப்புத்தகத்தில் வார்த்தைகள் சொல் ஒவியங்களாக வடிவமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. மாணவர்கள் அந்த சொல் ஒவியங்களை கவனித்து, அதில் மறைந்துள்ள எழுத்துக்களின் வடிவங்களை இனம் கண்டு வார்த்தைகளை கண்டுபிடித்து பிற மாணவர்களிடம் பகிர்ந்து கொண்டனர். பின், அவ்வார்த்தைகளை பாடப்புத்தகத்தில் கொடுக்கப்பட்ட கட்டத்தில் வரி வடிவம் சிதையாமல் எழுதி மகிழ்ந்தனர். இச்செயல் திறன் மூலம் மாணவர்கள் முன்பறிந்த எழுத்துக்களை நினைவுகூர்ந்து எழுதியது சிறப்பு.

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT:

A community program helped first graders understand the importance of caring for and appreciating grandparents. The students created cards, listened to stories and songs, and had the opportunity to meet a visiting grandparent. To promote intergenerational connection, their experiences were captured in a culminating video.

HANDWRITING CONTEST: Grade 1 students had the opportunity to showcase their handwriting skills during a contest held on 27th February. The students wrote 6-line stories that were impressive and demonstrated their dedication to mastering the fundamentals of writing.



சொல்லோவியம்

#### **GRADE 2**

In their EVS class, grade 2 students were introduced to the concept of the three R's -**Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle**. By means of interactive lessons and practical activities such as crafting new items from discarded materials, the students were able to gain a better understanding of proper waste management and cultivate environmentally conscious behaviours.

Two interesting activities were used to enhance the vocabulary of second-grade students.

Writing and drawing: They practiced new words by writing them down and drawing corresponding pictures, reinforcing their comprehension.

**Flashcard sorting**: They collaborated and utilised flashcards to categorise prefixes, suffixes, and compound words, which helped them improve their vocabulary skills.

**Patterns with leaves**: The students showcased their creativity and engagement by using leaves to form repeating and rotating patterns. This activity not only helped them create beautiful designs but also strengthened their bond with nature.

Money concept: In a fun and collaborative group activity, students were given play money to help them learn and understand basic money concepts by identifying and selecting the correct currency.

#### எதிர்ச்சொல் அறிவோம் - கலையுடன் ஒருங்கிணைந்து கற்றல்

முதலில் மாணவர்களுக்கு எதிர்ச் சொற்களை வகுப்பறையில் இருக்கும் பொருட்களை பயன்படுத்தி கற்றுக் கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. அடுத்த நாள் மாணவர்களை வெளியே அழைத்துச் சென்று அவர்கள் முழுவதும் அச்சூழலை கவனிக்கும்படி அறிவுறுத்தப்பட்டு, பின் அவர்கள் கவனித்தவற்றை மாணவர்கள் வகுப்பேட்டில் வரைந்து எதிர்ச்சொல் வார்த்தைகளை எழுதும் படி அறிவுறுத்தப்பட்டது. மாணவர்கள் இச்செயல் திறனை மிகவும் ஆர்வத்துடன் செய்து மகிழ்ந்தனர்.

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT:

Students learned about the significance of cleanliness during this project. They put their learning into practice by carrying out routine cleaning tasks and worked together to develop a video presentation, which they showcased on 20.02.2024. This project demonstrated their collaborative efforts and dedication and instilled a sense of motivation and responsibility. This project facilitated both personal and collective learning.

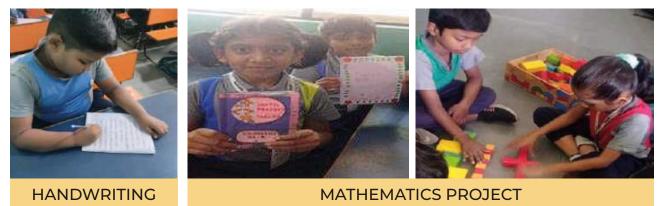


#### HANDWRITING:

On 27th February, the second-grade students exhibited their writing abilities by drafting 10-line stories with remarkable handwriting and correct formatting. The competition highlighted their commitment to the fundamentals of writing.

#### MATHEMATICS:

Grade 2 students designed imaginative booklets for their multiplication tables, where they skillfully applied their artistic abilities. This engaging project helped them master their tables while encouraging a well-rounded learning experience. To explore patterns and promote critical thinking and collaboration, the students used blocks, which made the activity even more enjoyable and deepened their understanding of pattern sequencing.



#### PEOPLE WHO HELP US

Grade 2 students were taught about the importance of community helpers and how they play a crucial role in our society. As a part of this learning, the students crafted personalized cards for the school helpers to show their appreciation and acknowledge their contributions to the school community. This activity helped the students develop empathy and understanding towards others.

#### **GRADE 3**

#### ENGLISH

Students became chefs in this exciting activity! They got the chance to experiment and explore various ingredients, put together their unique sandwiches, and share their creations. This hands-on experience not only encouraged teamwork, creativity, and communication but also promoted healthy eating habits, that too with a variety of choices! It was a fun and tasty way for students to learn practical life skills.

Through sorting exercises, the students explored countable and uncountable nouns. By grouping examples such as "apples" (countable) and "water" (uncountable), they were able to comprehend the distinction between the two and enhance their grammar and communication skills. This task established their capacity to use nouns accurately in sentences.

#### தமிழ் - திணை ... திணை... என்ன திணை? உயர்திணையா? அஃறிணையா?

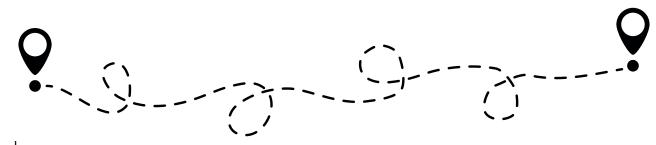
இலக்கணப் பகுதியான திணைப் பாகுபாடு பற்றிய கற்பித்தலைத் தொடர்ந்து மாணவர்களுக்கு உயர்திணையையும், அஃறிணையையும் பிரித்தறியும் செயல்பாடு கொட்டுக்கப்பட்டது. மாணவர்கள் திணையின் அடிப்படையில் தங்களுக்கு வழங்கப்பட்ட சொல்லட்டைகளில் உள்ள சொற்களை உயர்திணை அஃறிணை எனப் பாகுபடுத்தக் கற்றனர். மகிழ்வாகவும் சிறந்த கற்றல் நிறைந்ததாகவும் இச்செயல்பாடு அமைந்தது.

#### PEOPLE WHO HELP US - FARMERS

Students marked the occasion of Pongal by presenting a song and dance dedicated to farmers. Their performance conveyed their gratitude for the agricultural community while also learning about the significance of acknowledging those who provide us with food. The event was a blend of festivity and education, resulting in a remarkable experience for the students.

#### FINDING DIRECTIONS AND LANDMARKS

In a recent school activity, third-grade students got an opportunity to explore navigation using a map. This interactive experience helped them develop their spatial awareness, comprehend cardinal directions, improve their map-reading abilities, and gain an appreciation for the significance of landmarks in navigation.



#### **GRADE 4**

#### ENGLISH

During their lesson on subject-verb agreement, fourth-grade students had an interactive activity where they created matching cards with 10 subjects and their corresponding verbs. Later, they played a game matching subjects and verbs that agree. This fun and engaging activity helped them to better understand the concept playfully and interactively.

#### MATHEMATICS

Grade 4 students experienced a truly handson approach to understanding equivalent fractions. Through a fun paper-folding activity, they were able to see for themselves how fractions with different denominators can represent the same whole. They gained a greater understanding and visualisation of this important mathematical concept.



#### SCIENCE

Fourth-grade students had the opportunity to explore the concepts of measurement using various homemade tools. They designed their own rulers to measure length, balance scales to measure mass, and measuring jars to measure volume. By incorporating colorful decorations, these activities were both informative and fun. Through this hands-on experience, the students were able to gain a clear understanding of measuring length, mass, and capacity, different measurement

#### concepts, and the different SI units involved.



#### கரும்பு தின்னக் கூலியா?

விளையாட்டுகள் என்றாலே மாணவர்களுக்கு மிகவும் பிடித்தமான ஒன்று அதுவும் பாரம்பரிய விளையாட்டுகள் விளையாடுவது ஒர் வகுப்பறை செயல்பாடாக அமைந்தால்? 'கரும்பு தின்னக் கூலியா?' என்பது போல மாணவர்கள் அதீத ஆர்வமுடன் இச்செயல்பாட்டில் பங்கு பெற்றனர். தாயம், தட்டாங்கல், ஐந்தாங்கல், தாயம், பல்லாங்குழி, பாண்டியாட்டம் போன்ற விளையாட்டுகளை விளையாடி மகிழ்ந்தனர். தலைமைப்பண்பு, வெற்றியை நோக்கிப் போராடுதல், கூர்சிந்தனைத் திறன், தன்னம்பிக்கை, தோல்விகளை ஏற்றுக் கொள்ளும் மனோபாவம், தவறுகளைத் திருத்திக்கொள்ளுதல் போன்ற பல்வேறு திறன்களை இப்பாரம்பரிய விளையாட்டடுகளை விளையாடியதன் மூலம் மாணவர்கள் பெற்றனர். நண்பர்களுடன் இணைந்து விளையாடியது அவர்களின் மகிழ்ச்சியை இரட்டிப்பாக்கியது என்பதில் ஐயமில்லை.



## Growing Awareness: Importance of preservation with creative activity

Fourth graders explored the gifts of nature through an activity. They used charts, cardboard, and illustrations to showcase materials like cotton, dal, and bangles derived from plantations. This hands-on experience helped them learn about the importance of environmental preservation in our lives.

## Green Initiatives: Champion the 3Rs for a cleaner environment

Fourth graders explored the 3Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle through a project using reused materials and creative models. This hands-on activity taught them about waste management, sparked discussions on sustainability, and instilled a sense of environmental responsibility.

## Digging Deep: Explore the layers of soil with creative models

Grade 4 students built models of soil profiles using cardboard, reused parts of the tree, and colorful paper. This hands-on activity helped them learn about different soil layers and their importance, sparking curiosity and appreciation for the hidden world of soil.

#### **GRADE 5**

#### ENGLISH

Grade 5 students performed a play based on "The Time Machine," enacting characters and delivering lines according to the plot. This helped them grasp the dramatic elements of plot, characters, and theme.

#### SOCIAL

In a dramatic enactment, fifth-grade students paid tribute to the freedom fighters who fought for our country's independence. Their passionate portrayal of these heroes showcased a deep understanding of their sacrifices, which in turn fostered a sense of patriotism and pride. It was a moving tribute to history and the fight for freedom.

#### Seminar on taking care of animals:

Grade 5 students left a positive impression with their animal care seminar! The seminar consisted of engaging presentations and informative charts that highlighted the students' dedication and knowledge, promoting responsible pet ownership and animal welfare awareness.

विद्यार्थियों ने रचनात्मक रूप से हिंदी को चित्र कला के साथ मिलकर अवशिष्ट सामग्री का प्रयोग करके पशु व पक्षियों के चित्र बनाएं और साथ ही में उन्होंने अवशिष्ट सामग्री का प्रयोग कर छोटे-छोटे खिलौने बनाएं । उन खिलौने के माध्यम से विद्यार्थियों ने पशुओं और पक्षियों के नाम को जाना इस प्रक्रिया को करने में उन्हें बहुत ही आनंद आया और उनकी भाषा कौशल में भी वृद्धि हई।

#### **GRADE 6**

The students of Grade 6 marked the occasion of Republic Day by designing posters that depicted our fundamental rights. These colourful posters showcased their creativity and understanding of these essential rights in a democratic setup. This display was a great way to impart knowledge and raise awareness among the school community.

#### CREATIVE READING PROJECT

Through the use of creative projects such as character sketches, mind maps, comic strips, and scene drawings, students were able to explore novels uniquely and engagingly. These activities enhanced their critical thinking and creative expression. They were able to analyse characters, visualise storylines, and connect with the narratives. Collaborative class discussions encouraged the sharing of unique perspectives and fostered a sense of teamwork. This innovative approach to literature provided a balance between analysis and creativity.



#### CREATIVE READING PROJECT

#### ENGLISH

The students in the sixth grade designed picturesque flashcards that portrayed the events of the book "Tiger Boy". Their collaborative storytelling helped them gain a deeper understanding of the characters' traits, story sequences, and twists and turns in the plot. This engaging activity was a success for both students and teachers.

#### செயல்பாடு: பேசுதல் திறன் சோதித்தல்

தலைப்பு: "எல்லோரும் இன்புற" – பிறரிடம் அன்புகாட்டிய கருணை உள்ளம் கொண்ட அன்பர்களில் ஒருவரைப்பற்றி வகுப்பில் உரையாற்றுதல்

எல்லா உயிர்களிடத்தும் அன்பு செலுத்தல். பிறருக்கு உதவி செய்தல். வாழும் முறைகளை அறிதல். பிறர் பசியைப்போக்கும் உயர்சிந்தனையை வளர்த்தல் போன்ற நற்பண்புகளை(அறக்கருத்துக்களை) மாணவர்களின் மனதில் விதைக்கும் பொருட்டு, 'பிறரிடம் அன்புகாட்டிய கருணை உள்ளம் கொண்ட அன்பர்களில் ஒருவரைப்பற்றி வகுப்பில் உரையாற்றும் படி மாணவர்களுக்கு அறிவுறுத்தப்பட்டது. மாணவர்களும் புத்தர், அன்னை தெரெசா, வள்ளலார் ஆகியோரைப் போன்று உடையணிந்து அவர்களின் கருணை உள்ளம் பற்றிய பல அரிய தகவல்களை வகுப்பில் பகிர்ந்துகொண்டனர். இச்செயல்பாட்டின் மூலம் அனைத்து உயிர்களிடத்திலும் அன்பு செலுத்தவேண்டும் என்ற அறக்கருத்தை பல தொண்டாளர்களின் வாழ்க்கை வரலாற்றின் மூலம் அறிந்துகொள்ள ஒரு வாய்ப்பாக அமைந்தது.

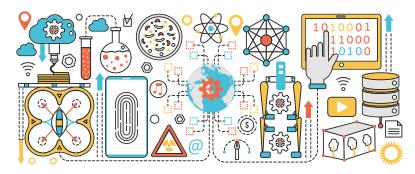


செயல்பாடு: இயல் 6 – (இலக்கணப்பகுதி திருப்புதல்) கருத்தரங்கு நிகழ்த்துதல் ஒரு மொழியைப் பிழையின்றிப் பேசுவதற்கும் எழுதுவதற்கும் இலக்கணம் பயன்படுகிறது. சொற்களை விளக்கும் கருவியாக இலக்கணம் அமைகிறது. இலக்கணம் என்பது மொழிக்கு விளக்கம் கூறும் மரபிலக்கண நூற்களின் செய்திகள் மட்டுமல்ல. நாம்பேசும் எமுதும் மொழியின் அமைப்பையும் ஒழுங்கு நெறியையும் கூறுவதாகும். எனவே இலக்கணத்தின் இனிமையை ஆறாம் வகுப்பு மாணவர்கள் சுவைத்து உணரும் விதமாக இலக்கணக்கற்பித்தலை மாணவர்கள் நிகழ்த்துமாறு செயல்திட்டம் வழங்கப்பட்டது. இச்செயல்பாட்டின்படி மாணவர்களை நான்கு குழுவாக பிரித்து(Housewise), ஒவ்வொரு குழுவினருக்கும் ஒரு இலக்கணப்பகுதியை திருப்புதல் நிகழ்த்தும்படி பணிக்கப்பட்டது. இதனைத்தொடர்ந்து ஒவ்வொரு குழுவும் ஆர்வமுடன் மின்னட்டைகள், சொல்லட்டைகள், விளையாட்டு முறை கற்பித்தல் உபகரணம் ஆகியவற்றை தயாரித்து சிறப்பான கற்பித்தலை குழுவாக வகுப்பில் வெளிப்படுத்தினர். ஒவ்வொரு மாணவரும் தங்களுக்கான வாய்ப்பை திறம்பட பயன்படுத்தி, தங்களுக்குள் இருந்த திறன்களை வெளிப்படுத்தினர். இத்திருப்புதல் செயல்பாடு பாடப்பகுதியில் உள்ள இலக்கணக்கருத்துக்களை மேலும் தெளிவாகப் புரிந்துகொள்ள ஒரு வாய்ப்பாக இருந்தது. ஆசிரியராக நானும் மாணவர்களிடமிருந்து பல கற்பித்தல் யுத்திகளை அறிந்துகொள்ளவும் ஒரு வாய்ப்பாக இச்செயல்பாடு அமைந்தது.



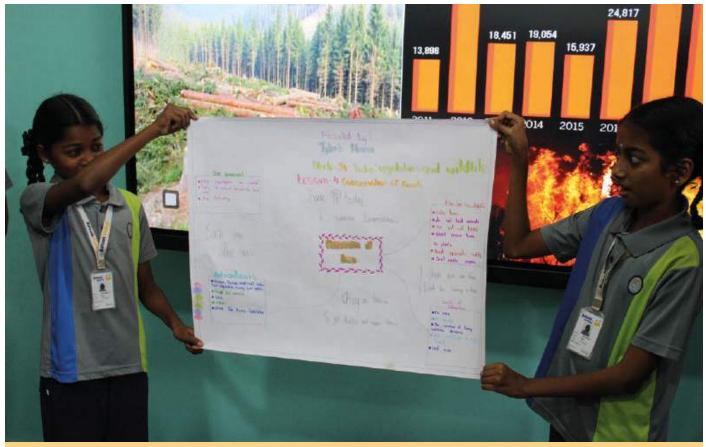
#### SCIENCE - ELECTRIFYING ACHIEVEMENTS

From doorbells to flashlights, grade 6 students demonstrated creativity and problem-solving abilities while learning about circuit diagrams and real-world applications. We celebrate their achievements and are excited to witness the scientific discoveries these students will make in the future!



#### SOCIAL SCIENCE

A captivating seminar was organised for grade 6 students to explore India's vegetation and wildlife. The students participated in various activities such as tribal dances, informative charts, dramas, and visuals to showcase their understanding. The event turned out to be a successful learning experience for everyone involved.



SOCIAL SCIENCE: India's vegetation and wildlife

#### **GRADE 7**

A fun quiz competition was organised where students could test their knowledge of the **Indian Constitution**. The competition had 15 sets of questions and a 1-minute time limit, which created an atmosphere of excitement. The competition not only tested students' knowledge but also instilled a sense of patriotism and appreciation for our country. Students had a great time applying their knowledge and learning new things about our country.

#### ENGLISH

A group of seventh-graders recently gave a presentation on Candy Gourlay's book "Tall Story." They engaged the audience with an overview of the author, plot, and characters. The focus was on the cultural clashes and growth of the two main characters, Bernardo and Andi. The analysis explored themes such as identity and family, and a mind map was used to visually capture key elements. The presentation was a great demonstration of their understanding and appreciation for the novel, and it inspired their classmates to explore literature as well.

#### MATHEMATICS

In the study of 3D shapes, seventh-grade students explored the concept of cubes and how their appearance changes from different perspectives. They participated in a hands-on learning experience, constructing various cube structures. This engaging activity allowed them to experience the thrill of discovery and solidify their knowledge in a fun and memorable way.



**MATHEMATICS: 3D Shapes** 

#### SCIENCE

Seventh graders investigated the science of light through two engaging activities:

1. Laws of Reflection: The Laws of Reflection were demonstrated to students by having them observe light bouncing off mirrors. This allowed them to discover the correlation between incident and reflected angles. This hands-on exploration solidified their understanding of reflection.

2. **Newton's Wheel**: Students were able to unveil the secrets of colour combinations through a fun and interactive activity using a spinning colour wheel known as Newton's Wheel. The activity explored how different colours blend to create new shades

#### **BROCHURE AND POSTER MAKING**

Grade 7 students showcased their comprehension of Candy Gourlay's "Tall Story" through vibrant brochures and insightful research presentations.

The students displayed a great amount of enthusiasm and creativity while presenting their own interpretations of the story. They paid close attention to various elements such as the author, plot, characters, and cultural contrasts. This activity helped them comprehend the story's essence and hone their brochure-making abilities.

#### **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

They explored thematic elements such as natural disasters like earthquakes, etc., through independent research. They presented their findings, brainstorming solutions to mitigate such disasters. This exercise encouraged critical thinking and collaboration.

14 IMAGINE (January 2024 - March 2024)

#### **GRADE 8**

#### அறிவுசால் அம்மையார் (நாடகம் நடித்தல்)

மாணவர்கள் அறிவுசால் ஒளவையார் அதியமானுக்கும்,தொண்டைமானுக்கும் இடையில் நடைபெறும் போரினை தன் அறிவுதிறனால் நிறுத்திய கதையினை எட்டாம் வகுப்பு மாணவர்கள் நாடகமாக உரிய வேடத்துடன் நடத்திக்காட்டினர் இதன் மூலம் அவர்களின் சொல்வளம்,குரல் ஏற்றதாழ்வு,கதைமாந்தர்களாக தங்களை உருவகித்து கொள்ளும் திறனை வளர்த்துக் கொள்ள ஏதுவாக அமைந்தது. அது மட்டுமல்லாமல் மாணவகளும் தங்கள் குரல் வளத்தால் சிறப்பாகவும், கதைமாந்தர்களுக்கேற்ற உடைகளுடன் ஆர்வமாக தங்கள் கதை மாந்தர்களின் பகுதிகளை வெளிப்படுத்திய விதம் சிறப்பாக இருந்தது.



#### MATHEMATICS

Grade 8 students dove into 3D shape formulas using hands-on nets and the GeoGebra app. This interactive approach combined practical exploration with digital tools, fostering a deeper understanding, active participation, and enhanced application of the formulas. It provided a well-rounded learning experience.

#### SCIENCE

Students of the eighth grade were able to gain practical knowledge of electrolysis, electrical conductivity, and chemical processes by constructing and conducting experiments with electrolytic cells. This interactive activity proved to be an engaging way for students to understand these scientific principles.

#### SOCIAL SCIENCE

As part of classroom activity, Grade 8 students brought the criminal justice system to life through a courtroom drama reenactment. They assumed the roles of police officers, lawyers, and judges, experiencing how a case progresses from the initial crime to the court trial. This engaging activity fostered a deeper understanding of justice, legal procedures, and individual roles involved in the system.

#### **GRADE 9**

#### ENGLISH

Grade 9 Students prepared flashcards featuring characters and their physical and personality traits on opposite sides. They then shared these flashcards with their family members, discussing similarities between themselves and the characters, and relating the characters to real-life situations. This activity helped them:

• Analyse character traits: By identifying both physical and personality traits, students gained a deeper perception of the characters.

• **Connect with the story**: Relating the characters to their own lives allowed students to engage with the story on a personal level, allowing for a more immersive experience.

• Identify story elements: Discussing the exposition, middle, and catastrophe demonstrates their grasp of the story's structure.

#### **GRADE 9**

தமிழ் இலக்கணத்தில் தோன்றும் பிழைகளைத் திருத்தம் செய்ய வெவ்வேறு வழிகள் இருப்பினும் விளையாட்டு வழியில் கற்பித்தால் என்ன?என்றஎண்ணத்தின்வெளிப்பாடே பாரம்பரிய விளையாட்டில் இலக்கணத்தைப்புகுத்துதல் என்ற நோக்கத்தில் எழுத்துப்பிழைகளை களைய அடிப்படையாக மாணவர்களுக்கு எந்த இலக்கணங்களைப் புகுத்தலாம் என்ற எண்ணும்போது அடிப்படைப் பிழைகளை கண்டறிந்து அதில் இருந்து மாணவர்கள் பிழைகள் களைய கல்லாங்காய் விளையாட்டின் மூலம் மொழி முதல் மற்றும் மொழி இடை,கடையில் வரும் எழுத்துகளைத் தெரிந்துகொள்வர் மற்றும் செட் விளையாட்டின் மூலம் ஒலி-ஒளி வேறுபாடுகள் கண்டறிந்து அதனை வாக்கியத்தில் எழுதும்போது பிழைகளைத் தவிர்க்க வாய்ப்புள்ளது பிறகு இலக்கணத்தில் முக்கியமான இலக்கணம் வல்லினம் மிகும் மற்றும் வல்லினம் மிகா எழுத்துகள் விதிகளை மனனம் செய்து விளக்குவதற்காக தாய விளையாட்டின் மூலம் புகுத்தினேன்.



#### SOCIAL SCIENCE

Grade 9 students took on teaching roles, presenting lessons to peers using technology. This peer teaching activity promoted collaboration, teamwork, and communication skills. Presenters deepened their understanding while classmates benefited from diverse teaching styles, enhancing engagement and participation in the classroom.

Students also worked on projects related to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. Through this activity, students were able to increase their awareness about:

- Disaster types: Students were educated about types of disasters they might encounter.
- Mitigation strategies: They explored ways to reduce the impact of disasters beforehand.
- Safety measures: Students learned essential safety actions to take during a disaster.

This project helped them gain practical knowledge and prepare for potential emergencies.

#### **GRADE 10**

#### **REPUBLIC DAY**

Our Republic Day celebrations were an incredible display of national pride! Despite having exams, the students managed to create impressive projects highlighting India's diversity and strength. Their commitment to both academics and civic responsibilities enriched the school community and inspired their peers. It was a truly successful celebration!

## **CO-SCHOLASTIC CHAPTERS**

#### Children Enlighten Peers on the Joy of Reading During Author Talk

In an inspiring assembly, the vibrant students of 9B took center stage to discuss the transformative power of books during a captivating Author Talk on 03.01.2023. Engaging their peers with passion and enthusiasm, the children highlighted the profound impact of reading on intellectual and emotional development.

Emphasizing the importance of diverse literature, the young speakers eloquently expressed how books transport readers to different worlds, broaden perspectives, and foster empathy. They shared personal anecdotes, illustrating how reading has become a source of solace, inspiration, and growth in their lives. The assembly was a testament to the students' belief in the magic of storytelling, encouraging their fellow classmates to embrace the joy of reading for a lifetime of learning and imagination.



#### "Nadi Shuddhi for serenity amongst teachers - Special Session by Ms. Vidhyashree"

In a rejuvenating yoga session led by Ms. Vidhyashree, our esteemed physical educator, on 06.01.2024, teachers experienced profound tranquility through Nadi Shuddhi Yoga. The session aimed at harmonizing the subtle energy channels in the body, promoting relaxation and calmness. As participants engaged in the gentle breath-control exercises, a palpable sense of serenity enveloped the room. Ms. Vidhyashree skillfully guided the teachers through the practice, fostering a collective atmosphere of peace. Post-session, teachers expressed gratitude for this invigorating experience, highlighting the immediate feelings of relaxation and mental clarity. The session served as a holistic wellness break, leaving educators refreshed and ready to inspire.



#### Assembly on Metro Traffic Skit and Dance Extravaganza by Grade 8

In a captivating assembly led by the dynamic students of 8B, Metro Traffic safety took center stage. The young talents delivered a powerful skit emphasizing the vital importance of wearing seat belts. Through their engaging performance, they conveyed the gravity of road safety, urging everyone to buckle up for a secure journey. The spirited dance routines added an extra layer of enthusiasm, leaving the audience both entertained and enlightened. The assembly served as a compelling reminder for all to prioritize safety on the roads, turning a routine message into a vibrant and memorable learning experience.

#### Vision of Developed India – Visual Arts Contest

We're thrilled to share the remarkable outcomes of the Visual Arts Contest held for our talented students in grades 6 to 8 on 09.01.2024. The theme, "Vision of Developed India," prompted young artists to depict the nation's progress across diverse realms. Astonishingly, our budding artists showcased the evolution of science, agriculture, aeronautics, education, economy, and religion in captivating visuals. Their creations vividly portrayed a future where innovation intertwines with tradition, setting a profound stage for the aspirations of our rising generation. Congratulations to all participants for weaving a vibrant tapestry of India's promising future.

#### "Joyous Pongal Celebration at Balsam Academy: A Day of Tradition, Dance, and Delight"

Balsam Academy echoed with laughter and joy as students and teachers came together to celebrate Pongal, the harvest festival on 13.01.2024. The aroma of sweet Pongal filled the air as the school premises transformed into a festive haven. The day began with heartfelt prayers, as students and faculty worshipped Lord Sun, expressing gratitude for the bountiful harvest.

The highlight of the celebration was the vibrant dance performances by teachers and enthusiastic Grade 10 students, who swayed to the beats of traditional Pongal songs. Their infectious energy set the stage on fire, captivating everyone present.

Following the lively performances, delicious Pongal prasadam was distributed to all, fostering a sense of unity and community. The spirit of Pongal radiated through every corner of Balsam Academy, creating lasting memories of a day filled with tradition, dance, and shared joy.



#### **REPUBLIC DAY**

We celebrated Republic Day with a vibrant array of activities, capturing the essence of patriotism and cultural appreciation across all grades and departments.

In the primary section, Grade 1 students immersed themselves in **finger painting** the Indian flag colours, while Grade 2 engaged in **crafting tricolour paper flowers**. Grade 3 students created captivating **collages**, aligning with this year's theme. Grade 4 showcased unity with a **group recitation of a patriotic poem**, and Grade 5 delved into historical events through a short play or reading. Grade 6 focussed on **fundamental rights** with a bulletin board display. The middle school continued the spirit with Grade 7 participating in an engaging **quiz on the Indian Constitution** and Grade 8 enjoying a **storytelling session** on Indian freedom fighters. Grade 9 took pride in **reciting the preamble**, and Grade 10 showcased their creativity through a **writing competition** centered on this year's theme.

Across departments, the Social Department organized a **documentary screening** depicting India's post-independence journey, while the Sports Department unfurled the flag and conducted a **mass drill** for staff.

The Language Department contributed an **article on "Viksit Bharath,"** reflecting on the school's commitment to holistic development. The Math Department devised **mathematical problems** related to the tricolours of the Indian flag, and the Science Department explored the **scientific aspects behind national symbols**.

The ICT Department contributed to the celebration with a video highlighting the difference between **hoisting and unfurling** the National Flag. The Art Department creatively **displayed the preamble** on the school wall, and the Work Education Department shared a practical skill by demonstrating **how to make a tri-colour dish**.



#### Caffeine Canvas: Grade 7 Students Elevating Artistry with Coffee Creations

In a captivating fusion of creativity and caffeine, Grade 7 students unleashed their artistic prowess through mesmerizing coffee art paintings. With steaming cups as their palette, they crafted intricate masterpieces, blending shades and textures to evoke a sensory symphony. Aromatic and visually stunning, their coffee creations brewed a delightful sensory experience.







#### Holistic Learning Adventures: From First Aid Basics to Culinary Creativity

In an engaging educational journey, Grade 6 students delved into first aid fundamentals, mastering the essentials of a first aid box and practical wound care. Simultaneously, Grade 7 focused on sharpening problem-solving skills through real-life scenarios, fostering teamwork and decision-making. Meanwhile, Grade 8 embraced the art of meal planning, creating vibrant tricolor dishes in celebration of Republic Day. These hands-on experiences, spanning first aid, critical thinking, and culinary creativity, showcase our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals with practical life skills.

#### Celebrating Excellence: Ms. Vidhya Shree Triumphs in 44th National Masters Athletics Championship

We are thrilled to announce the remarkable achievement of Ms. Vidhya Shree, who clinched the first place in the Discus Throw event at the 44th National Masters Athletics Championship held on 13.02.2024, in Pune. Competing in the 30+ category, Ms. Vidhya Shree showcased unparalleled skill and determination, securing her well deserved victory.

Her exceptional performance in the championship not only highlights her individual prowess but also serves as an inspiration to aspiring athletes nationwide. Ms. Vidhya Shree's dedication and passion for athletics have been a driving force behind her success, setting a benchmark for excellence in the field.

#### Indian Heritage through Mandala Art

Grade 6 students recently immersed themselves in a captivating exploration of Indian traditional art forms through Mandala art. With enthusiasm and creativity in full bloom, these young artists discovered the intricate beauty of Mandalas, reflecting India's rich heritage. From mastering geometric patterns to embracing vibrant hues, the students not only adorned their canvases but also delved into the cultural significance of this ancient art. The experience not only honed their artistic skills but also fostered a deep appreciation for the diverse traditions that make our heritage unique. Witnessing the students' Mandala creations was a testament to the power of art in connecting generations to India's timeless cultural roots.

#### Little guardians of the seas

Dive into the vibrant world of Grade 1 as our young artists embarked on an underwater journey through their enchanting aquarium art. Delighted giggles filled the air as they learned to draw aquatic animals with adorable precision. Beyond artistic strokes, these little minds were instilled with a profound lesson - the importance of protecting our oceans. Through colorful creations, they discovered the fragility of marine life and pledged to be guardians of the seas by not polluting. Witnessing their enthusiasm, we are confident that these budding conservationists will carry this message into the future, safeguarding our precious oceans.

### Cultivating Green Thumbs: Exploring the world of gardening

Our budding botanists in Grades 6 and 7 delved into the wonders of gardening, nurturing a profound connection with the environment. From unraveling the essential role of plants in our ecosystem to recognising common flora and vegetables, students developed flourishing green thumbs.

Understanding the functions of various plant parts enhanced their appreciation for nature. Emphasizing proper watering techniques, sunlight exposure, and the importance of shade became paramount in fostering healthy plant growth. Meanwhile, Grade 8 students undertook basic home maintenance tasks, mastering skills such as cleaning electrical appliances. Safety precautions were ingrained, empowering students to discern when professional assistance is necessary. As our students grow, so does their competence in sustaining a harmonious and secure living environment.

#### Leap into learning

Excitement filled the air as our Grade 1 and 2 students dove into dynamic jumping routines, exploring various techniques and patterns. Beyond the sheer joy, these activities served as a fundamental platform for honing balance and coordination skills. The enthusiasm was contagious, creating an atmosphere of active learning and fostering a sense of achievement among our budding jumpers!

#### Little Maestros

Our youngest learners in Grade 1 and 2 showcased their boundless enthusiasm in the recent hand and eye coordination activity. Engaging in fun and interactive exercises, students not only fine-tuned their motor skills but also experienced a noticeable boost in attention and concentration levels. These activities serve as a delightful pathway to enhance cognitive development, fostering a love for learning in our vibrant classroom environment.

#### Fun and fitness

The Physical Education sessions were a vibrant mix of enjoyment and fitness. Students are excelling in coordination routines, enhancing their mind-body connection while growing stronger and more agile. Recent activities include jumping drills and assessments involving squats and stepper agility workouts, aimed at evaluating physical fitness and fostering overall health. Additionally, emphasis is placed on mental clarity and teamwork, recognizing the interconnectedness of mind and body in achieving optimal performance.



**ASSEMBLY: Metro Traffic** 

HOLISTIC LEARNING: First Aid



**Recycled Art** 

Mask Making



VISUAL ART: Vision of developed India





**Recycled Art** 

#### **AWARDS DAY**

The Awards Day Celebration was a triumphant culmination of talent and dedication where students were honoured for their hard work and excellence. It was a day filled with excitement and pride as teachers cheered for the achievers. The stage was decorated with certificates, showcasing the accomplishments of the students. From top graders to beyond academics achievers, every efforts were celebrated. The atmosphere buzzed with happiness, when we gave away the awards of excellence, acknowledged the contest winners and honoured the NAAT rank holders. As the festivities unfolded, a sense of inspiration infused the gathering, igniting aspirations and fostering a culture of achievement. It was a special day to recognise the efforts and talents of each student, encouraging them to continue striving for success in the future.



AWARDS	HOLISTIC	BEST STUDENT	SCHOLAR	BIG LEAP
GRADE 3	HARIDHARSHAN A.	GAYATHIRI M.	LITHIKA SHRI P.	GEETHIKA G.
GRADE 4	LAKSHIKKHA SHRI V.P	HARSHIKA S.	ERIK JOHN E.	KIRUBAKARAN R.
GRADE 5	KEERTANA A.M	SUBASREE S.	SUBASREE S.	PRANITH S.
GRADE 6	NARESH P.	THUSWIN ADITHYA N.G	PRATHEESH S.	DIVYAPRAKASH S.
GRADE 7	KRITHIKA SRI S.	TEJUSWINI V.S	UDITH RAGHAV S.	RITHANYA T.
GRADE 8	LAKSHANA S.	VARSHITHA V.	MOTHISH T.	JOSHITHA B.
GRADE 9	JASWANTH R.	YUVASREEDEVI K.S	ARYAVARDHAN A.S	HAMSINI S.
GRADE 10	SRIVATHSAN V.	BHARADWAJ MURARI H.	JISHNU K.	BALA VIGNESH B.

AWARDS	BOOK LOVER	COMPUTER WHIZ	NURTURER	INNOVATION IN ART
GRADE 3	SAGAYA SASHVIN J.	NA	LOSHINI M.	RAMYA R.
GRADE 4	SRIRAM S.	NA	MADHUMITHA S.	PRIYADHARSHINI S.
GRADE 5	RAJESHKRISHNA A.	NA	KOPIKAA S.	KUZHALINI B.
GRADE 6	OLIVIA MARSHAL	NISHAL V.	AARATHANA R.R	THANESHA U.V
GRADE 7	MOHAMMAD AREEB A.N	KRITHIKA SRI S.	ASHWIN KUMAR D.	JAYASHRI T.
GRADE 8	DANUSHREE G.	MOTHISH T.	KAVIPRIYA S.	BALA S.
GRADE 9	ARYAVARDHAN A.S	UJJWAL P.	MUKESH P.	DARSHAN S.
GRADE 10	AMIRDHA VARSHINI S.	HARIHARAN A.R	KALYAN SREE V.	KRISHNIKAA SREE N.

AWARDS	DANCE & THEATRE	MUSIC	ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY	ATTENDANCE
GRADE 3	NA	NA	NA	NA
GRADE 4	NA	NA	NA	DEV PRASATH B.
GRADE 5	NA	NA	NA	SARVESHVARAN S. GAUTHAMAN R.
GRADE 6	MOKSHITHA S.K	PRATHIK S.	SURUTHICKA SEJAL S. HESHNA M. PRATHEESH S	NA
GRADE 7	YAZHINI B.	LEAH CHRISTINA K.	ASHVIKA R.M.S RUDRASRI S. SHRUTHIKA B. NIKILAN S. RAHUL ROSHAN R.G. SANTHANUSHKAR S.	SIDDHARTH S.
GRADE 8	SANJANA A.	GLARINDA JESSIE N.	YASHIKA M.	DEEPA RAGAVENDAR E SREENIK VARSHITH T.
GRADE 9	SAHANA S.M	JANANI M.	SAI SUPRIYA D.	ARYAVARDHAN A.S YUVARAJ J.
GRADE 10	MANISHA SREE V.	VAISHTNAVI V.S	SREEMATHI T.S	SREENIDHI G. SUBASHREE M. TAMIZHYARASI S.

AWARDS	PERSONAL GROOMING & ETIQUETTE	INVENTIVE THINKING	ENTREPRENEURSHIP	SPORTS
GRADE 3	SUJITH M.	DEVESH U.	NA	ADHVIK J.G
GRADE 4	SHARWIN NATHAN D.B	ERIK JOHN E.	NA	SAI VEERAPPAN R.M
GRADE 5	KEERTHI R.	DEEPAK KANNAN B.L	NA	DHANVIN RAJ U.
GRADE 6	EDIN BLESSON	INIYA SRI N.H	THANESHA U.V	MONIESH V.
GRADE 7	VIBUSHITHA S.	PRAJAN VIJAI V.P	SANTHANUSHKAR S.	VISHWASAI U.
GRADE 8	KANISHKA P.	RATHISH KUMAR J.S	GLARINDA JESSIE N.	SANJANA A.
GRADE 9	ASHWITAA J.	VISHAALLAKSHMANAN M.	JASWANTH R.	<b>RITHISHREE A.R</b>
GRADE 10	NANDANA PRIYA V.	SUJITH N.P	KANISHKA M.K	KARTHIK M.



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## **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

• We are delighted to share the outstanding accomplishments of our students at the recent drawing competition organized by Koshikan Sports Martial Arts Academy on 07.01.2024. Gurucharan P, a talented artist from G5B, secured the 3rd prize, showcasing creativity and skill. Additionally, Yashnee P, a budding artist from UKG, clinched the 1st prize with her remarkable artwork. Their dedication and artistic prowess not only reflect their individual talents but also highlight the overall excellence of our school. Congratulations to Gurucharan and Yashnee for their well-deserved recognition, bringing pride and joy to our school community.

 In a resounding display of talent and sportsmanship, the Balsamites emerged victorious at The Krishnamoorthy Memorial Trophy 2023-24, held at The Krisar Academy on 27.01.2024. The event witnessed a convergence of young athletes, showcasing their prowess in various sports categories.

This remarkable feat by the Balsamites in The Krishnamoorthy Memorial Trophy not only underscores their athletic prowess but also reflects the school's commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals. Congratulations to the young achievers for their stellar performances!

#### EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS

Students of Grade IX shine at InoVIT-2024 (National Level Science Contest hosted by Vellore Institute of Technology)

Grade 9 students excelled at InoVIT-2024! The event ignited their passion for science, promoted healthy competition, and boosted their confidence. This success is a testament to their unwavering dedication and commitment to learning. Diverse Engagement:

The scientific abilities of 25 students were on display as they participated in a range of activities such as debates and poster presentations. The event highlighted their versatility and passion for science, showcasing their knowledge and enthusiasm for the subject. Our students' dedication and scientific spirit were evident in several categories where they emerged victorious.

Our students triumphed in several categories showcasing their dedication and scientific passion!

**Debate:** Grade 9's Sai Supriya received a Consolation Prize for her thought-provoking debate on the impact of technology on intelligence. This highlights her strong communication skills and passion for scientific discourse.

**Poster Making**: Grade 9's Kamaltejaswi and Sujanth Sachin impressed the judges with their creative and innovative project on "Nanotechnology in Healthcare," earning a well-deserved Consolation Prize.

Model Making: Aryavardhan, Mohammed Sahool, and Roshan Darshan won a cash prize for their creation "Math City". Jaswanth, Nithish Varma, and Rithik received special recognition and a cash prize for their outstanding model on "Science in Everyday Life."

CHESS				
S. NO.	NAME	GRADE	CATEGORY	WON
1	MOHAMMED SALEEM K.	3C	UNDER-10	GOLD
2	KAPILESH T.	7A	UNDER-12	GOLD
3	DWARAKESH A.	7C	UNDER-14	GOLD

ARCHERY				
S. NO.	NAME	GRADE	CATEGORY	WON
1	LITHIKA SHRI P.	ЗA	UNDER-10	BRONZE
2	SASHIDHAR R.	7B	UNDER-14	GOLD

SILAMBAM				
8. NO.	NAME	GRADE	CATEGORY	WON
1	THANISHKA S.	3B	SINGLE STICK (UNDER-10 GIRLS)	SILVER
2	SAMRITH S.	5A	SINGLE STICK (UNDER-12 BOYS)	SILVER
3	KRISHMITHA R.	5 <b>B</b>	SURUL (UNDER-12 GIRLS)	GOLD
4	HAVISH R	5B	SURUL (UNDER-12 BOYS)	SILVER
5	SANANDA S.	7B	SINGLE STICK (UNDER-14 GIRLS)	BRONZE
6	UDITH RAGHAV S.	7B	SURUL (UNDER-14 BOYS)	SILVER
7	HARISH LAL V.	7C	DOUBLE STICK (UNDER-14 BOYS)	GOLD
8	BALAYOHITH R.	7C	SINGLE STICK (UNDER-14 BOYS)	GOLD
9	HAREESH G.	70	DOUBLE STICK (UNDER-14 BOYS)	GOLD
10	SARAVANA KARTHICK A.	7C	KAMBU SANDAI (UNDER-12 BOYS)	SILVER

BADMINTON				
S. NO.	NAME	GRADE	CATEGORY	WON
1	DHANVIN RAJ U. VISHWA SAI U.	5A 7C	DOUBLES (UNDER-12 BOYS)	GOLD
2	SELCIA DORATHY S. SHRIVARSHA B	8B	DOUBLES (UNDER-14 GIRLS)	GOLD