

Santa Maria Integrated Learning Environment

EXHIBITION 2017

At Santa Maria we have been trying to create opportunities for our children in order to help them become confident and independent individuals. Interactive Exhibition showcasing the engagement during the summer vacation was one such attempt. The exhibition is an outcome of a process that goes through certain stages. In the first phase we invited parents to join us for workshops that were conducted in the month of April. The objective was to come together and find ways to engage our children meaningfully at home.



In the second phase parents and children engaged meaningfully during the holidays. As the school reopened after the break the classrooms started to flood with beautiful creations. In the third phase children started talking presenting their work during "**Show and Tell**". This continued till all children got a chance. Simultaneously children were also informed about their presentation in the Exhibition. A whole month went by preparing for it. Children discussed with their teachers to decide which group they would like to join. We also had mock sessions where teachers from other classes visited the preps and helped them get a feel of what exactly is going to happen during the Exhibition. The excitement levels went up as the day of the exhibition came closer. All groups and their coordinators were ready. Classrooms looked absolutely stunning.



The activities were broadly classified under four headings, namely;

Budding Scientists

In this group the children presented age appropriate experiments live during the exhibition. These experiments were first attempted by children and parents at home during the holidays.





Observations: It is evident from the way children have participated in the activity that it has boosted their confidence, developed a scientific temperament, increased their ability to observe and reason and increased their curiosity at their level. Children will continue showing scientific experiments in the classrooms throughout the year till everyone gets a chance.

Nature and I

In this group the children presented the outcome of their observations while engaging with nature. Children spoke about the Nature collage, Tree of life, Shadow play and other activities they did.





Observations: This activity has helped our children observe their surroundings with keen interest. They have made beautiful observations about the trees in their neighborhood, the life on it etc.. It has brought them close to nature and encouraged them to love and appreciate what is around. Children will continue bonding with nature as they will do a detailed observation of a tree in the school through the year.

Best out of waste

In this group the children presented the outcome of the making the best out of waste. During the holidays children engaged with parents to recycle waste material and create useful articles.



Observations: The school has been making deliberate attempts in helping children understand the importance of recycling waste. Children participated in many such activities during the Earth Day. In last few years we have been able to bring down the waste age of paper in the school. Children are encouraged to do their

assignments on reusable paper. This activity has helped our children to learn how to recycle material, use waste material to create useful things and also why is recycling waste important. The school will continue promoting this thought through regular updates in the morning assembly.

Story Telling

In this group children got a chance to be "Story Tellers". Each story teller had an individual station which allowed parents to sit and listen to their story. This time the story group conducted three live corners:

- **The word wall**: On this station the parents had to recall words from the story after listening to it and build a word wall on the spot.
- **The Puppet Making**: On this station the parents had to listen to the story and name their favorite character. Thereafter they had to make a stick puppet of that character on the spot.
- **The Story Illustration** : On this station the parents had to listen to the story and recall it through an illustration on the spot





Observations: Story telling has always been an integral part of our philosophy. We have always promoted story telling as a powerful tool for socio emotional development during Early Childhood. Our children are developing interest towards stories. It was such a delight to see little children sitting confidently to tell story with puppets to visitors they are not even familiar with. Children who were initially hesitant while telling stories gained confidence in the next few attempts. Children used stick puppets and puppet theatre very beautifully.

Green Warriors

Children also made beautiful bookmarks with recycled material, and gave them to parents as a souvenir.



Exhibition was a great opportunity for our children to present their work and interact with parents. It has not only boosted their confidence but also made them aware of their strengths.

Warm Regards,
Deeksha Thomas
Head