

A Walk in the Vicinity

On the bright and sunny morning of 29th April 19 all Kg's stepped out of the school for their first outdoor visit. Exploring and observing one's immediate environment is the first step to discover the world around. A planned outdoor exploration at an early age leads to meaningful experiences that build on a child's personal interest, extending their learning.

A prior visit was made by the teachers in the vicinity to find relevant age-appropriate information and to make essential arrangements for the visit.

Before we started our day's expedition, a Circle Time discussion was taken up to create a perception about the walk since it was our little Santa Marians first Outdoor visit. We all sat together for a discussion keeping our focus on the good practices we should observe during any outdoor visit.



We also explored our school for a better understanding of a farm house. Children were made aware of what does a farm looks like through the nature walk they go in the school. Children discovered the green chillies, egg plant and tomatoes in school and not to forget the exquisite animals and trees.



With these images in mind, we started our walk... Stepping into the Zaildar farms was mesmerizing for the little ones. Children immediately pointed towards the statues of elephants and said "Ma'am dekho yahan elephant bhi hai". We wished the guard and the policeman.

While moving forward the large and refreshing swimming pool in the heart of the farmhouse spellbound many children. Ivaan immediately said "Ma'am hum swimming bhi karein ge?" Interesting queries started pouring in like "yahan kaun rehta hai?" "Ghar may Swimming pool hota hai kaya? Etc"

With this children were reminded about the importance of water in our lives and how we all can try to save more water this summer season.



Then we moved forward towards the cow shed, passing the vegetable garden which had fresh spinach. Children were able to connect immediately and said "humaray walay farm house may mirchi, brinjal aur tomato hai yeah nahee hai." and "Yahan par tomato bhi hai!!"

In the cow shed we saw three cows and a calf. Children were able to point towards the distinct odour and guess its cause too. After observing the cows and their food and milk cans few children immediately said "yeah tho dudh waley bhaiya mayray ghar latey hain". We moved forward in the field to observe the guava, chikoo, mulberry and other trees. Aakarsha said "Ma'am mere gaon mein bhi aisa khet hai". Aarav said "mere gaon mein bhi khet hai." With many such observations we thanked the guard bhaiya and walked towards the other side of our neighbourhood.



While walking on the road right outside the school children noticed some road signs. To this Rimhrim said, "Babies don't like loud noise and they get scared". The importance of walking towards our left was also emphasised.



From the farm house we walked towards the St. Alphonsa's Church which is right next to Santa Maria. We saw the mother Mary's idol outside the hall. Amayra said, "Yeh mandir hai na"? Issac said, "Yeh mera church hai". Children

were explained the significance of the church and we all prayed to mother Mary for protection and happiness of all, thanking her for all the blessings.



After a trip filled with all our observations children came back to their classes with their unique interpretations. After an oral recall of our visit children drew beautiful illustrations and shared numerous observations and experiences of this special day.

Illustrations

