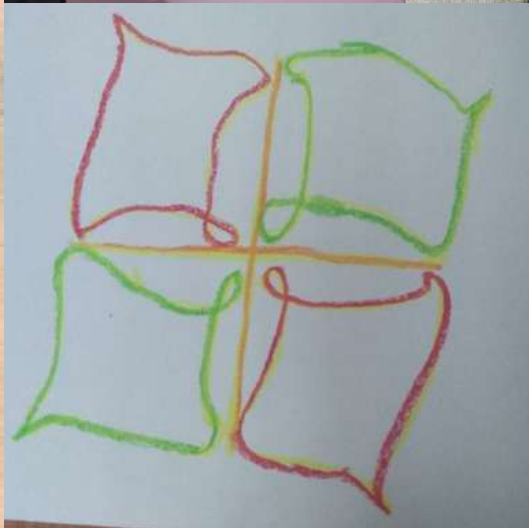




**Kalpavruksha**  
a Steiner inspired school

## **NEWSLETTER**



## **BACK TO SCHOOL!**

### **CONTENT**

- *Celebrations in month of February*
- *Grade activities*
- *Blog- I never wanted to be a teacher*

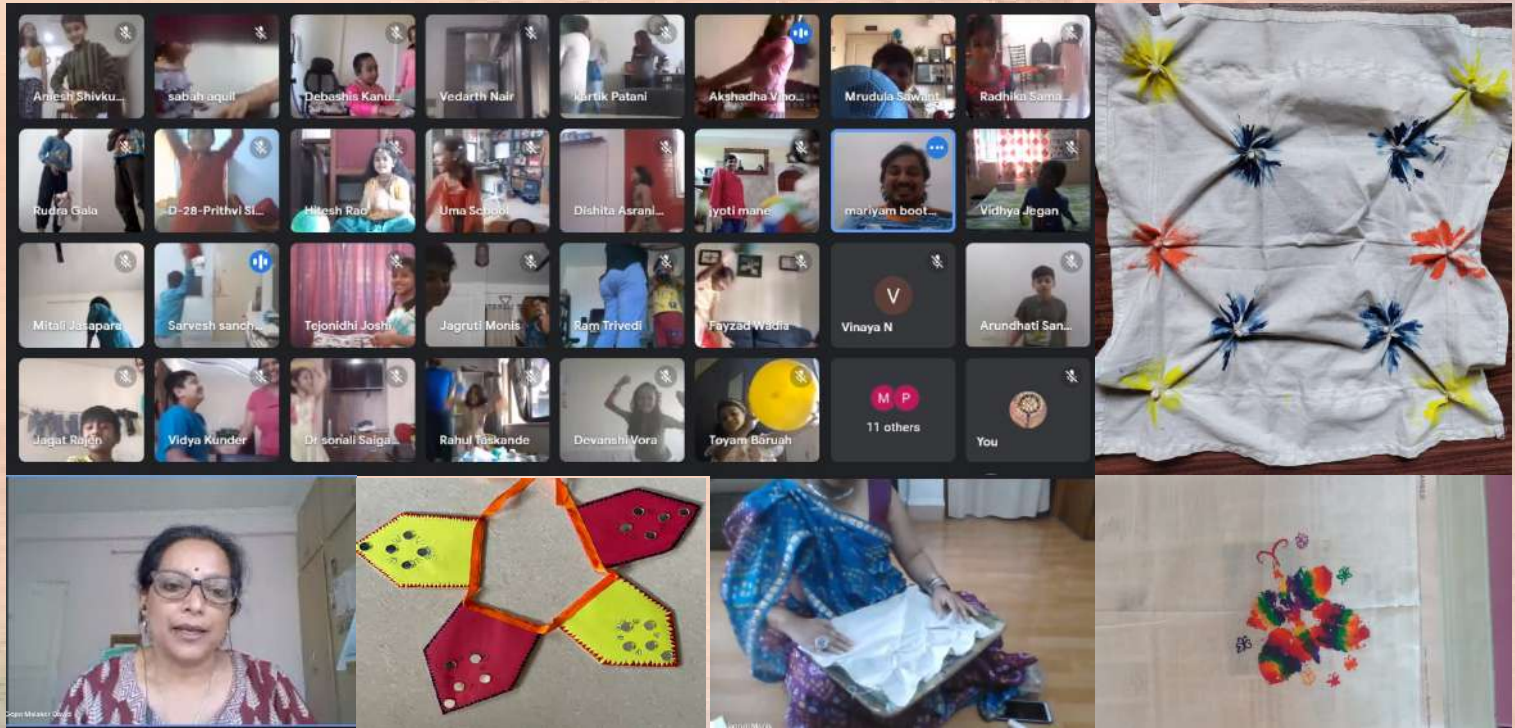
# CELEBRATIONS IN MONTH OF FEBRUARY



## BASANT PANCHAMI CELEBRATION

On 4th February 2022, we celebrated Basant Panchami with great enthusiasm. Basant Panchami is celebrated to mark the beginning of spring. It is also treated as a spring festival, and joyfully celebrated by wearing yellow colored clothes, emulating the bright yellow mustard flowers in the fields. As some of our students were in the school premises with us, we celebrated it with gusto. Grade 4 and 5 heard the story of 'How spring got all its colours' and painted beautiful marigold flowers in the painting session following the story. Grade 3 also painted a beautiful painting of the nature. Our Grades 1 and 2 had a gala time too. They cooked various delicacies. Grade 1 made corn-cucumber salad on the occasion of Basant Panchami. They chopped and mixed cucumber, tomato, corn and seasoning for the recipe. Grade 2 prepared a pineapple cucumber and sprouts salad.

# CELEBRATIONS IN MONTH OF FEBRUARY



## MELA CELEBRATION

On 5th February 2022, we celebrated our annual Mela with great zest. The theme of the celebration was Gujarat and its heritage which was reflected in our widespread activities. We were graced by Dr. Gopa Malaker David as our chief guest. Parents and students turned up in large numbers for our online event. We had various fun workshops planned for our participants. For our little ones, we had Toran making and leaf printing sessions. Whereas, for our parents, we had tie and dye activity planned. We had numerous games which were planned and executed by our sports sir. Both parents and the children had fun playing it. We had a rapid fire quiz competition too. Everyone participated with great eagerness.

The highlight of the show was the puppet show which was based on a beautiful native story of Gujarat. The event ended on a high note where all our participants joined in Garba. Together, we had a blast.



# EDUCATING THE FUTURE

TEACHERS ARE WORKING HARD AT PREPARING SOME REALLY GREAT LESSONS FOR OUR YOUNG LEARNERS, SOME OF WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

## KINDERGARTEN:

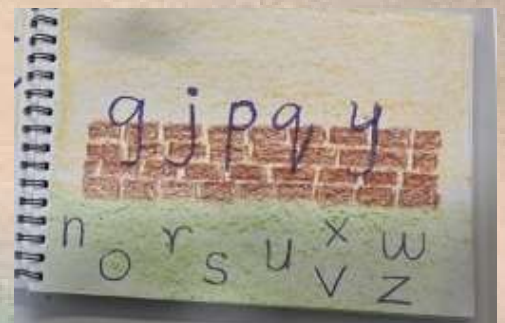
Our little hands at work..... Our kindergarten children cleaned our classroom corners, tables, chairs and class toys. Cleaning activity helps to develop life skills in children and their fine motor skills.

## GRADE 1:

Baby letters (lowercase Letters of the alphabet) were introduced with a story and art. We learnt to read and write few more words and verses.

*“That which secures life from exhaustion lies in the unseen world, deep at the roots of things.”*

-RUDOLF STEINER





## GRADE 2:

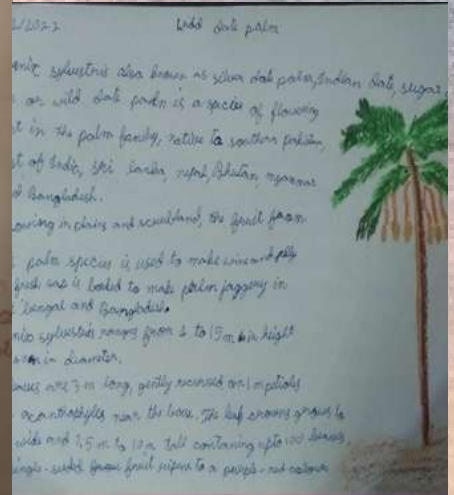
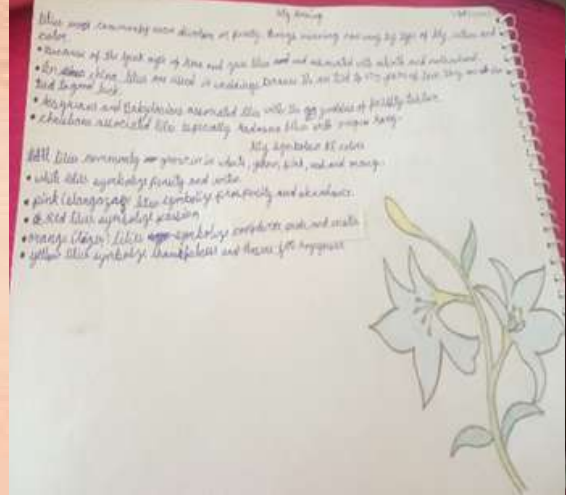
Stories of the Saints are brought to children in Waldorf schools during the second grade because their meaning resonates with children during this stage of development. The stories of the Saints are told so these children can identify with people who have done good deeds for others. Though second graders experience consequences for their new-found “naughty” or “mischievous” behaviour, the children are reassured through these stories that they are inherently good people. Children learn valuable social lessons through the stories as well. The children recalled, drew & painted the stories that they heard in the class. This is the second Saints Story block in grade 2 where they heard stories of Milarepa, Gurunanak, Rabia,



## GRADE 3:

Knitting helps with coordination, motor skills, sensory perception and tactile feedback and therefore it is an integral part of the Waldorf curriculum. The diligence required to stick to a pattern to produce the desired outcome is a great experience for children, especially when they can then use or wear that item – it links the labour with the reward. Third grade is the year of practical math. The children begin to use linear, liquid and solid measure. Seen here are our third graders using measuring cans to learn liquid measurements.





**GRADE 4:**

In fourth grade, we began with the revision of concept of a whole, the world, you, me. We made various worksheets to help visualize the relationships of different parts of fractions (1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/5 etc.) to a whole. With this knowledge, we were able to master the simple operation of adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions with like and unlike denominators. We are also revisiting the measurement block as telling time, making change with money or measurement in cooking- Math is very much a tool dealing with life and is very helpful. Students had a lot of fun in clay sessions and we continued with celtic forms in this block too.



**GRADE 5:**

During the botany block, the students learnt about the flowering plants as well as the significance of some flowers according to their colours. The flowers that were dealt with were rose, lily, marigold and sunflower. The students took keen interest to educate themselves regarding the importance of different flowers. They drew the different types of venations of the leaves and flowers and also wrote their own poems based on the flowers that they chose. Also, the stories of different trees which are important and useful in our day to day lives were learnt about such as neem and bamboo trees. The students were also taken to a trip at the Forest Park, Powai which made it quite evident to them the difference between the essence of pure air, atmosphere and the beauty of being in a natural surrounding and that of the man-made structures. It turned out to be a fruitful block to the students and can be explored even more apart from the regular paintings and drawings that is usually done. The students also learnt about the difference between food crops and cash crops.



**Following is a blog written by one of our teachers, Do give it a read!**

## *I Never Wanted To Be A Teacher*

*Before I begin, I would like to tell a secret. As children we all wish for things when we grow up. I too had such wishes and one of them was a wish to learn everything in this universe, everything that this universe has. And who would my teacher be? It was life itself- the grandmaster and the people in it- the guiding stars. While growing up I had forgotten all about it. I too was told to study, work-hard and become something. I had plans and goals which never happened despite repeated attempts. But life rarely goes like how you plan it.*

*When I was asked what you want to be when you grow up, in my heart I wanted to be everything except a teacher and Life is full of mysteries. I was running away from that one profession but I ended up being one. I never wanted to be a teacher. I have scars given by my teachers and hence sought not to be one. Not knowing that I have always been a teacher. I didn't need a tag to be one.*

*I never realised that my wish was slowly coming true. Slowly I was given access to various subjects. For example, I wanted to learn a programming language when I was in primary school, the school in which I was put incidentally taught one. Subsequently later in high school I learned more. I would always fail in physics and developed a hatred for it but in order to pass my 12th grade with good percentage, I had to study it on my own, I got more and more engrossed and strangely I started loving it. I took it up in my higher education as well. But I ended up having Geology as my majors which again not many people had ever heard of, the subject itself was new to me. When I feared economics and commerce, I was forced to face it by life (job interview actually) and ended up reading more about it and beginning to like it. I feared humanities and then with chances from life I started loving psychology, then history and politics with more and more knowledge getting added to my head. I was reluctant to paint, draw and knit again. All my family members- immediate and distant are all from various artistic backgrounds. All of them into some or the other artforms be it dance, music, painting, sculpting etc. I was the only one pursuing a non-art stream. In fact, I was the first and only STEM Girl in the entire generation of my family (both sides). My father being the first man with dual B.Tech who also happens to be an artist and so is my younger brother. But I am no artist. I did pick up craftwork and handwork skills from my mother. I still avoided it at all costs and guess where I ended up- in a Waldorf school. I wonder what would be next. I might have forgotten what I wished for but God or the Universe didn't.*

*But I realised that there is no point in learning if not shared to the world. Life is the greatest teacher and I will always continue to learn many things. To be the best student I need to be a master as well. I will be a guiding star to those who want me to be just like the other wonderful people in my life and I will shine the brightest. We are forever students in this life. In the end I would like to say be careful for what you wish for. And I am not unhappy for what I asked.*

*- Anju Konai*

*Grade 1 class teacher*

