



THE ORCHID SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER PRIMARY 2021-22



Dear Parents,

Hope you are safe, healthy, and happy!

Life seems to be coming back on track after a gap of two years. Streets are buzzing with chatters of people, the economy gradually picking the pace, office buildings are looking lively again with employees' presence and soon the schools will hum with the sounds of students. Inshallah!

The last two years have been extremely difficult and arduous for everyone. We started with uncertainties, not knowing much about how the year is going to unfold. With limited experience though with unlimited enthusiasm and energy we sailed through the year. The entire fraternity stood strong, stayed united, and resolute to bring myriad learning experiences through classroom activities. Relentlessly each one worked to provide the best education to our children.

I hereby take an opportunity to express my gratitude towards each one of you for being our compassionate companion during this testing time. Your insights and feedback have served as an essential element that has refined our decisions and strengthened our partnership. We are thankful for the positive affirmations and words of encouragement that we have received from many of you.

Under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Lakshmi Kumar, Principal Ms. Sangeeta Kapoor, and Vice-principal Ms. Atreyi Saha we are achieving new heights and setting new examples in the field of education.

I feel quite satisfied and appeased while I curate this newsletter. It takes us through the glimpses of the learning our children had experienced in the last few months.

Dear Parents,
Festive Greetings to all!

The time has come to give closure to the first term of this academic year. Soon after a short break we all will begin our journey with more energy and enthusiasm.

This phase of pandemic and online functioning has taught us many lessons for life. Let us embrace those learning. Let us pledge to respect our resources, take care of our environment. Let us still focus on celebrating our festivals in an eco-friendly manner. Let us say no to fire crackers, instead let us look around us for people who need our care and company. Let's be good citizens.

The 2nd term will begin after this much needed break. Post vacation the major focus of us would be in identifying and bridging the gaps that have seeped in different forms in our surroundings and in students' lives. The students will need to be brought back to socializing and bonding with peers. The learning process will be little extended and will require extra time and effort. The TOS Team is all geared up to bridge the gaps and I am sure you all parents will always be the partner in this journey. Let's walk together for a new beginning.

With best wishes and immense respect for all
-Sangeeta Kapoor



STD - IV

Crafty workshop

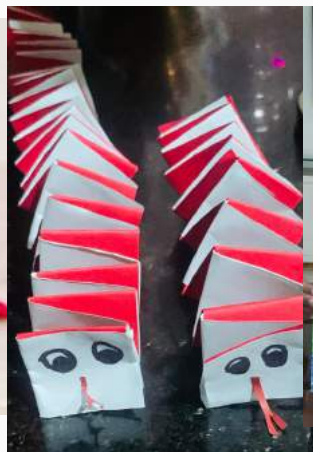


We believe to empower our students through various workshops designed to introduce practical skills, techniques, or ideas which they can then use in their work or daily lives.

'Crafty Workshop' was conducted for the IV graders which provided a platform for the kids to create new things and innovate. Craft activities create a sense of achievement and give a boost to their self-esteem.

Integrated Project- Nagpanchami

Students were involved in the integrated project is based on Nagpanchami. It is an environment-based project on Snakes. It was month-long project, wherein the programs and activities were weaved around the snakes. Students explored the world of Snakes through the various art forms, snake tales, experiences of people working with the reptile, research projects, and other curriculum-based activities. Students learnt various aspects related to snakes and environment. The culmination of this project happened in the month of August through MLV (Make Learning Visible) wherein students showcased their learning in front of their parents during the event.



Chef's At Work- Aadai Dosa

The students of class IV made a delectable Adhai, the healthy, hearty and un fermented pancake of Tamil origin.

The discussions included the history and the origin of Adhai in Tamil Nadu , science concepts of fermentation, probiotics ,saturated and unsaturated fats and calories . Also, basic Math concepts were practised as the students brainstormed on ratio, proportion, and fractions to make the Adhai batter.

Conscious Ganesha



Students of Grade IV enjoyed creating Lord Ganesh's Idol using clay under the guidance of Parag da. They explored many concepts, skill and techniques while creating the idol like proportion, measurement, mixing, ideating, colouring etc. The session was integrated with environmental science. Ms. Supriya Goturkar spoke to std IV students regarding celebrating the festival in an eco-friendly way.

Gram-Setu

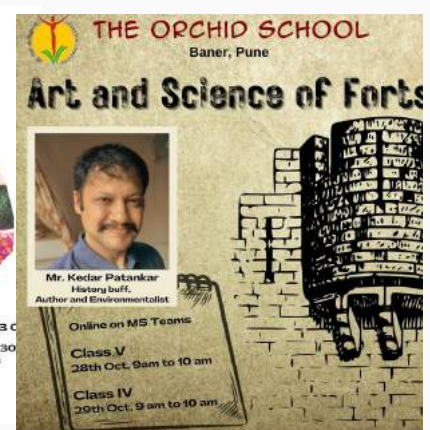
Collaborative Project

In the true spirit of being locally rooted and globally competent, TOS joined hands with Zila Parshad School, Utroli. Students from TOS and Zila Parishad School, Utroli under the wings of Gramsetu will collaborate for the three months. This collaboration will focus on the activities based on languages and science concepts.



The Orchid School always strives to provide education that is locally rooted and globally competent. Local culture, history & customs reflect on the reality of life and connect the present to the past. 'Jaanta Raja' was an integrated project for students of Classes IV and V.

Janta Raja- Shivaji



Learning through manipulatives



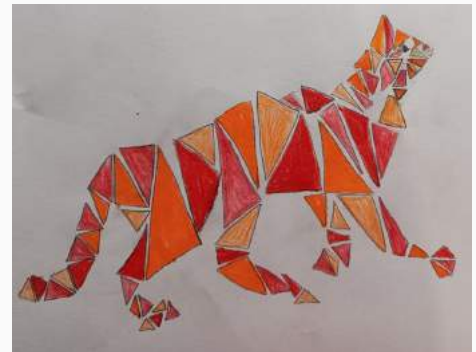
Fun with Symmetry



Rangoli Fun



Polygon Art



STD III

Fishy Tales- Story Telling event



Std III had storytelling event in the month of June. The students were taken on a trip deep down the ocean through the story.

They were welcomed into the deep blue ocean while singing – “Down in the deep blue sea, come and take a dive with me...”

The magnificent event ended with children grooving and dancing on their favourite song Baby Shark Doo Doo!

DINOSAUR SPREE

Students of class 3 had a chapter on description(adjectives), in English. This description was integrated with a story on Dinosaur.

To learn more about this extinct animal an activity was created where they were asked to make their own 3D dinosaur model using any material they wished to like cardboard, clay, lego, or any material they were comfortable with and describe them in their own words.

Their creative and motor skills were put to work. They even named their pet Dinosaurs. Some could fly, some were small.



Learning by doing- Germination

Students of class 3 learnt about “Parts of a plant” in EVS. Students were asked to sow seeds of fenugreek(methi), chilli in different pots and observe them regularly. Students observed the growth of these seeds and maintained the record for the same for 15 days. They drew how a plant grows from a seed.



FOOD-CHAIN ACTIVITY

Students of class 3 had a chapter on What Animals Eat in EVS.

To learn more about the various eating habits and where each of us belong to, on the food chain, an activity was conducted.

Students were asked to play the role of an animal/insect/bird to whichever level they belonged to on the food chain. Some of them had a paper mask on. Some with their head gears on.



MODAK MAKING



Class 3 students had this fun experience while making Modaks “The Sweet Dumplings” for their favourite Ganpati Bappa. Right from kneading the dough to stuffing the modaks and frying them they did like an expert. Students explored, prepared and enjoyed the process.

STD II

Peppy -Puppets

Grade 2 teachers conducted a puppet show that presented the stories on the theme of the month-‘Self Care’.The activity helped in stimulating a child's imagination, developing motor skills and confidence building by making their own puppets.



Noun -Town

Grade Students of grade II were given the opportunity to express their knowledge on nouns around them by drawing a 'Noun Town'.



ROCK-ON

Playing an instrument makes children use both sides of their brain, which strengthens memory power, builds confidence and brightens their day. To demonstrate their ability to organize, interpret, synthesize and evaluate knowledge in music, the students of Grade 2 had a 'Rock On' event on 30th July, 2021.



Our friend Ganesha

2nd graders had an event called 'Our Friend Ganesha' where they were encouraged to make a 3D model of Ganesha using different materials available at home.

The event focussed on selecting the right kind of resources, critical thinking, spatial skills, problem solving and decision making. 3D modeling was a perfect way to engage kids in activities that helped their visual skills.



Grade I began with self-care activity - where students demonstrated incorrect and correct ways of wearing a mask. While doing the activity students shared how they felt when they wore their masks and the importance of washing hands correctly.



Sensory Week

Students of class-1 explored five senses by doing various sensory activities for a week.

The sensory activities help students develop

- language
- cognitive growth
- fine and gross motor skills



FEEL-O-METER ACTIVITY

Expressing what and how we feel is difficult as an adult, hence we have trained the little ones and they got the opportunity to express their feelings and talk about it with the help of a Feel-O-Meter.

They made an amazing Feel-O-Meter in the class using all resources from the learning kit.

Morning ritual followed by class I students was to play 'Feeling Charades' and express how they felt.



Messy Day

Std I had Messy day to allows students to build, imagine, experience, investigate, explore, create, observe, predict and use the senses.



Character Dress-up

This event helped our students to gain knowledge of a variety of characters from different mythological stories from India and abroad. They chanted shlokas, prayers and dialogues. This in turn has developed interest in reading as they want to find out more about them.



Theme - I am Being Responsible integrated with EVS

'My House' was the EVS topic -other things were woven around it. A checklist for seven days with tasks that they could easily do, was given to them. A badge was made by them with the teacher's assistance with 'I am Being Responsible' written on it. They wore their badge everyday and felt proud of their accomplishment. Parents shared observations about their child.

No.	Daily tasks	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
1.	Brushing teeth on my own.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
2.	Wearing my own clothes.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
3.	Keeping all the books, worksheet file, compass box ready before online school begins.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
4.	Laying the table for lunch / dinner.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
5.	Clearing the table after lunch / dinner.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
6.	Keeping all toys properly after playing.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
7.	Keeping the story books neatly.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
8.	Sitting for studies & finishing daily H/W.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
9.	Watering the plants if required.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
10.	Checking tube-light/fans in the house and reminding elders to switch it off if not in use.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
11.	Putting dirty clothes in washing bag.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
12.	Drying / folding clothes.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★

Lacing Activity

Lacing activity helps develop a child's fine motor skill, visual perceptual skill, hand-eye coordination, improves attention span, develops patience and perseverance, strengthens their hands, wrist and finger muscles.



Nine Days- Nine Stories



Primary students celebrated the festival of Navratri in a unique way encompassing the stories of women ranging from mythology who did remarkable work in the field of Science and were inspired to take the road less traveled.

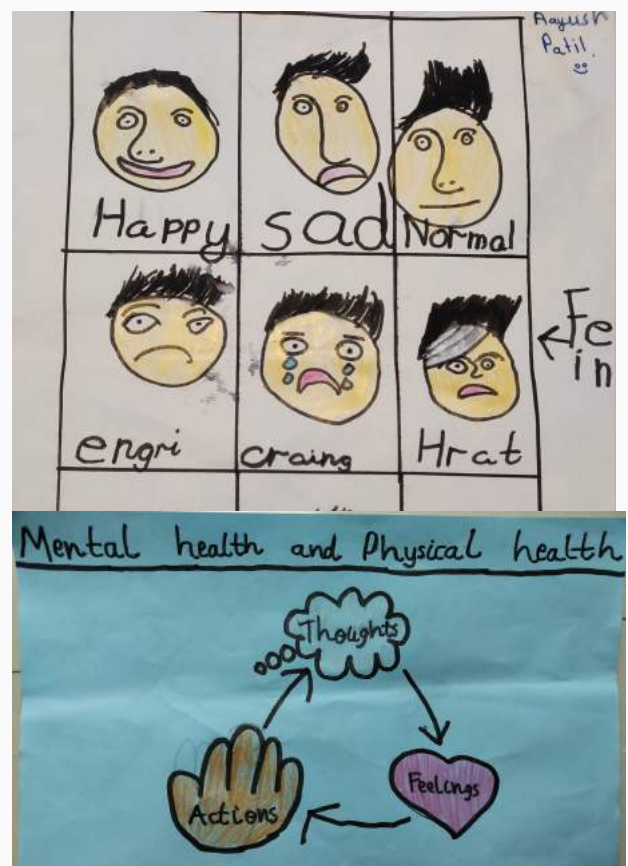
The highlight of the celebration was the FB Live event wherein students of std IV enacted, recited, and presented about the women who stood up for their rights and pushed the boundaries set by society.

SEL Activities

The Orchid School lays a great amount of emphasis on SEL. School counselors conducted SEL activities for students and parents from time to time to cater to their emotional needs.

During the pandemic, we felt disconnected from each other and the emotional and social connect had also reduced. Quality Circle Time classes were introduced, wellness posts were designed to equip the parents and students with the information they could relate to and reflect upon.

A session on the importance of mental and physical health as part of the World Mental Health day was conducted for students of grades 1-4.



Meet Your Teacher Day

It was the day that we all were waiting for eagerly. Students' happiness was evident through their face and their cheerful voices. They were extremely happy and joyful to meet their teachers and friends after a long time.

Teachers planned team activities and fun games to engage them. Students exchanged their experiences of online schooling with their teachers and friends. In all the atmosphere was lovely and lively.



The colourful and vibrant glimpses are testimony to the fun our children had during learning. Despite being an unusual year we could introduce many activities and programs to our students (which are otherwise difficult in school) as we had home as a huge resource. This was feasible because of your engagement and the exuberance our teachers displayed to make things happen. As we usher into another term, let's commit ourselves to bringing the best of learning opportunities to our children while working in tandem with each other.

We are very positive that the world will be happy and healthy again. The schools will buzz with laughter and giggles. The playground will soon be flooded with kids running all around. Classrooms will be a hotspot of discussions and innumerable chatters. With this hope and desire, I along with my coordinator Ms. Meenal Narvekar thank everyone once again for your tremendous support.

Stay Safe, Healthy, and Positive!

Wishing everyone a Happy Diwali !

With Warm Regards
Sonali Khambete
Unit Head-Primary

