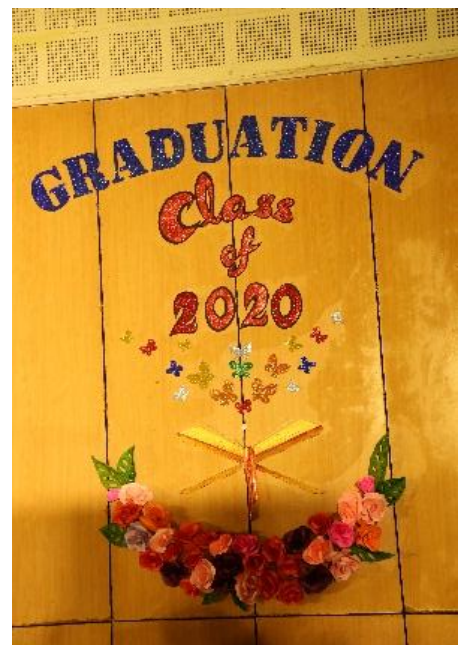




*NEWS
LETTER*

*February
2020*

*National Public
School,*



Beginning-

As on first of February the management and teachers formally bid adieu to the batch of 2020, many, specially the teachers, felt that the year has just passed in a blur, it seemed just a couple of days ago the auditorium boomed with the speeches and cheers of the aspirants and supporters of the council position contestants during election and so soon relinquishing those coveted positions they are giving farewell speeches.

Why does this happen? Why do we feel like this? Psychologist Steve Taylor in his book *Making Time* explains this phenomenon by suggesting a number of basic "laws" of psychological time, as experienced by most people. One of these is that time seems to speed up as we get older. Another is that time seems to slow down when we're exposed to new environments and experiences. As we get older, we have fewer new experiences and the world around us becomes more and more familiar. For children, the world is a fascinating place, full of new experiences and fresh sensations. And it has always been so at NPS Koramangala. What best way

to know it than our refreshing newsletter...so, read on...

Achievements

Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, Sports Authority of Karnataka and Karnataka Olympic Association organised Mini Olympic Games 2020 from 3rd to 9th February 2020 in Bangalore. This was **India's first ever Mini Olympic Games** where more than 3500 athletes under 14 years of age from all over Karnataka competed in 18 sports categories.



The Mission of the Mini Olympic Games is to shape and influence the young athletes and participants to prepare them to become ambassadors of Olympism, of sport and of a healthy lifestyle. We are proud to say

that **Shreya B of 6C** participated in **Rhythmic Gymnastics** event representing Bangalore with around 80 contestants in the female category.

Shreya has won **5 Gold medals and 1 Silver medal**. She also won **Individual Championship Gold medal** for her overall performance.

Vidyashilp Academy Basketball Tournament held on 5th February, our team of girls bagged first place and the boys secured second position. **Amrit Kuruganti of grade 8C got Best All Rounder Trophy** and **Sara Parikh of 8C received Top Scorer Trophy**.



The regional round of **World Scholar's Cup 2020** was conducted on 25th and 26th January at Greenwood High International School. Over 100 teams from schools across Bangalore took part. The team comprising **Advik Kabra of 9C, Vatsal Kant Singh of 9C and Swati Nair from 9B** emerged **6th overall** and have qualified for the global round scheduled to

take place in June this year in Muscat. In the debate event, **Swati Nair secured 9th position and Advik K 22nd**. In the collaborative writing event, **Advik was placed 3rd**. In the written quiz, Scholar's Challenge, **Advik and Vatsal were awarded one gold and one silver medal** each for their performance. The team came 4th in Scholar's Challenge, 6th in team debate, 13th in the multimedia quiz, Schola'r Bowl, and 17th in collaborative writing. **Advik Kabra was adjudged top scholar** from school and 4th best overall.

In the **7th Xyo Inter school Maths-Science Olympiad** our students of grade 4 were the winners in 'The Xyo South India Championship'.



The winners are **Raaga Gupta, Sreyan Panda, Reyaansh Agarwal, Akanksh Modi, Sachit Bhujang, Ayush Ramakrishnan, Devansh Chakravorty and Snehil Prusty.**

Anudhya Mahesh Narayanan of Grade 1 C ,

Anirudh Archak Grade 7 A, Prajesh Nath 2 B have been awarded certificates for game development. **Anudhya** is one of the youngest children to become the WhiteHat junior certified game developer. She was awarded the certificate by a panel of computer scientists from IIT, Google, Intel, Microsoft and Amazon.

Avani Karanth of Grade 3 A had her painting published in the March issue of the 'Childrens magazine' and has been awarded a cheque of Rs. 300.

MAIN EVENTS

Graduation Day

National Public School, Koramangala bid a warm adieu to its fifteenth batch of 12th graders at the Graduation ceremony on 1st February



The Chief Guest Dr. P Sreekumar, Director, Indian Institute of Astrophysics accompanied by the Director Dr Bindu Hari, Mr. Hari Krishna, CEO NPS Group of schools and the Principal Ms.

Jyotsana Nair graced the occasion.

A heartwarming nostalgic tale of the Grads' precious moments was the curtain raiser of the enchanting evening. Reminding the students not to distance themselves from that childlike joy of anticipation, wonder and awe, curiosity and hope, and the importance of Expecto Patronum or the need for having a guardian and a conscience- keeper in one's life, Dr. Bindu Hari blessed the batch. While, citing the example of Chandrayaan, Dr P Sreekumar, advised the class of 2020 never to accept failures as a setback, the Principal Ms. Jyotsna Nair impressed upon them to do even the smallest of tasks well, to always be grateful to everyone who has played a role in their successes, to respect everyone, to have the courage to take risks and to never quit no matter how tough the going is. The beats of the ridangam recital by Abhiram Nitin, of 12B, regaled the audience. A scroll along with a CD was presented to each of the graduates. Anushka Nair and Abhay Iyenger shared their beautiful memories and spoke about how their alma mater has shaped them into self-confident and candid personalities. School Prefect,

Niveditha S Iyer read the Covenant, a solemn agreement that reminds the students of their duties in future and a pledge to abide by the values learnt throughout their schooling. The parent speaker Ms. Vidya Lakshman lauded the ethos, opportunities and diversity that the school offers to its students. With the Ceremonial Declaration the students were declared graduands.



glimmer of candles accentuated the elegance of the ambience. The resonant melody of the School Song reverberated and then all dispersed with a wish on their lips and a prayer in their hearts, bidding goodbye and 'Hogi Banni' to this adorable and spirited batch of 2020.

OTHER EVENTS

Inter house (grade 6-8) Music and Dance Competition

The Inter house music event for the middle school was a sing-off conducted on the 3rd of February 2020. A team of two students were selected to represent their house after an audition round. Opponents and songs were chosen over chits. The opponent teams were to sing the same song on a back track karaoke. The songs chosen were popular numbers like- *Chana mereya* and *Teri mitti*, which the audience could well identify with. The judge was Vinayaka M, an alumnus of our school who has received many awards for his Hindustani Classical singing.



As the evening mellowed, the soft glimmer of candles accentuated the elegance of the ambience. The resonant melody of the School Song reverberated and then all dispersed with a wish on their lips and a prayer in As the evening mellowed, the soft





The Western dance event was named *Blast from the Past*. The students were given music from a period and they had to dance only on those songs. Each house team chose a period of 5 years by picking chits. There was a tie between Voyagers and Challengers, so time was given for on-the-spot dance off. **The Challengers emerged victorious** after a thrilling finale.



Grade 10 PTM

Students and parents of grade 10 attended the PTM on 6th and 7th Feb. With the objective of reiterating the key points for the forthcoming Board Examinations and to motivate

the students to do their best, the meeting successfully served its purpose. Students as well the parents clarified the doubts, if any, in this last PTM of the year.

Social Media Addiction (SMA) – Alisha Yadav and Ohanna .C. L of Grade 7 A conducted a few sessions with Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8 between the 27th of February and 3rd March covering various topics like –

- Rush to reach adulthood
- Curbing Social Media Addiction (SMA)
- Realising one has SMA
- Fomo, Nomophobia, cyberbullying etc.,

Interesting activities resulting in amusing answers, helped the learning process as students became aware of the gravity of the situation.

Early Learning

The topic for the month being 'My Body', there was exhilaration among the children as they participated in discussions, action songs and rhymes related to the Parts of a Body. "Voyage of the Micronauts", a story on how each part of the body works was told to the children. Their enthusiasm

and zeal in replicating yoga poses that was part of the story telling session was worth witnessing.



A field trip to the Planetarium was organized for the seniors and they got to learn about the planets, stars, asteroids, etc through a show.

Shukrana, an event acknowledging the dedication of the support staff was organized by the Early Learning students on 19th February. The children of KG and Montessori came together and put up a show to express their gratitude and appreciation to the support staff. Attired in traditional costumes, the tiny tots enthusiastically participated in the dance and group song. Acknowledging the akka and bhaiyas hard work with a

thank you card they thanked them in regional languages.



On the same day, students of grade 6 to 9 honoured and expressed their gratitude to all the members of the school support staff for their constant support. The students lovingly prepared beautiful Thank You

cards and presented them to each akka and bhaiya.



KG1 Field Trip to Martin's Farm

The field trip to Martin's Farm on the 6th of February, 2020 was a stimulating experience indeed! We were welcomed by the owner of the farm and he took us around to see the animals all the while providing us with details about their food habits and habitat.

The children had the pleasure of seeing a lot of domestic animals and birds at close proximity and had the opportunity to feed them as well. Martin's farm is a small, simple relaxed place, just

perfect for our children. The children learnt something new about the natural world around them.

The children were excited to see animals in the farm. Martin's Farm is home to a variety of domestic and farm animals like donkeys, goats, ponies, sheep, ducks, turkeys and hens.



KG1 – Presentation on Animal Life

"It takes nothing from a human to be kind to an

animal!” keeping this in mind the KG1 students showcased a classroom presentation as the culmination to their favourite EVS topic ‘Animal Life’ on 11th February, 2020.

A presentation that involved music, song, dance, quiz time, drama and storytelling was held. Children presented facts on aquatic animals, uses and houses of farm animals.

A quiz was conducted on birds, followed by a discussion on how a bird’s body is different from the human body. The children also spoke about the parts of the body of insects and explained the life-cycle of a butterfly, in detail.

A story on wild animals was dramatized by the children. The take-away from the presentation was that we must care for animals and not hurt them. The children also learnt that each animal has an important part to play in our eco-system.



Our Visit to the Planetarium (Cosmos)

Excited and full of enthusiasm, the children of KG2 and the Seniors from the Montessori went to the Planetarium on 20th February 2020. The children were enthralled by the models of the planets that they saw in the Science Park. The students and the teachers had an enriching experience and a visual treat in the sky theatre, where the Solar System was explained in an interesting manner. The children were overwhelmed and mesmerized during the show. This was active learning at its best.

Special Sessions for Grades 7 and 8

School Counsellor, Ms Sunanda V. conducted

special one hour sessions for boys and girls of Grade 8 and 7 separately on 18th and 27th Feb 2020 respectively. A total of 4 sessions were conducted on two days. The motivational talks aimed at enabling children to realize their dreams in today’s world of distractions and peer pressure.

The boys were told about sexual interactions in animal kingdom and how Man has come so far away from what evolution intended him to be. Attention was brought to how Man had taught himself to steer away from pure aggression seen in the males of Animal Kingdom to mutual respect for both sexes in human society. This difference has helped us to grow as an ambitious society, highlighting creativity, technology and equal Right to Live.

The girls were made aware of the sacrifices and difficulties that women had to encounter worldwide, to reach a state where they are treated as equal and are able to realize their dreams. There’s not a task or activity that is denied to women today. The children were reinforced with the thought that life is too precious to waste away by falling prey to addictions, anorexia or thoughts of self-insufficiency. Sprinkled with

relevant videos, pictures and scientific backing, the sessions were enlightening and were well received by the groups.

Field trips

Students of grade 6, 7 and 8 enjoyed their annual field trip on 12th, 11th and 9th of February respectively. A day, without studies, in the company of friends, no books and no class was well spent with great fun, food and company.

Wildlife Documentary Film

Students of grade 6-8 watched an hour long documentary *Wild Karnataka* on the natural history and rich biodiversity of the vast and beautiful state of Karnataka at PVR Forum mall. The film is produced by award-winning filmmakers Amoghavarsha J S and Kalyan Varma in collaboration with Icon Films and Mudskipper, is narrated by Sir David Attenborough with the theme music composed by Grammy-winning composer and music-producer, Ricky Tej. The documentary covers the various landscapes of the largest state in South India. It presented facts on various animals like otters, leopards, samba deer, tigers etc. **The students rated it as highly**

informative and a must watch for all.



Students of grade 8 and 9 staged the famous British drama, *To Sir with Love*, a memoir of E.R. Braithwaite's teaching in London's deprived East End that deals with social and racial issues. Mentored and directed by Ms. Usha Unnikrishnan the play brought out the best of theatre skills in children. They portrayed each character and dialogue with great finesse and confidence, drawing great cheers from the spectators.



Trip to Military Memorial –

“Theirs is not to reason why, theirs is to do and die”

It was a memorable day for the 8th and 7th graders on 2nd and 3rd March 2020 respectively, as they visited the National Military Memorial at Millers Road, Vasanth Nagar. They were received by a Kargil War veteran who spoke to them about the war and showed them the 120Ft. tall National

flag at the memorial. The veteran apprised the students of the harsh living conditions in the Himalayas. The vehicles used and flags with various emblems of different branches/corps of the military were on display with busts of some war veterans. The experience was heartwarming, leaving the students proud of their nation's heroes and their brave legacy.



Grade 3

On Thursday 20th February, 2020, students of Grade 3 went on an experiential learning trip to Lalbagh Botanical Gardens, Bengaluru.

It was an extension to their science topic "Plants". They were exposed to a rich and wide ranging variety of

plants, from herbs, to shrubs to majestic trees. They also visited the Bonsai Park and Cacti House to learn about some unusual/ exotic plants.

They saw the impressive Glass House and the ancient Lalbagh Rock, dating back to almost 3,000 million years.



Students enjoyed the mini trek up this hillock and had

fun, singing the state anthem right at the top.

It was indeed, true hands-on learning as they were given a guided tour of almost 1000 species of plants growing in this vast and famous tourist attraction of Bangalore.

They also relished eating lunch on the lush green lawns and played under the huge banyan trees in the garden and the day ended with many fond memories tucked away for future recollection.

Happening, Happy Saturday - Saturday 29th February was a **Happening Saturday** with a slew of events - Namma Santhe (Grade 6), Paintstreak (Art Exhibition), Spin-a-Tale (Grade 4) and Li'l Confectioners (Bake sale by Grades 7 & 8) held in the school premises. Here is more about them.

Namma Santhe:

On 29th February, the budding entrepreneurs of grade 6 were brimming with pride as they displayed the products so passionately made by them.

The purpose of this project is to develop their business skills. Right from conceptualizing the product, to wooing venture capitalists for investment and devising astute marketing strategies,

the students of grade 6 have done it all. Adding meaning to the term ‘**Corporate Social Responsibility**’ in their own little way, these youngsters have given away the profits generated to the NGO, Enfold India.

The most crucial part of the project is that students work in groups making it a collaborative exercise and at the same time realizing the importance of being sensitive towards the environment.

The efforts of the students were highly appreciated and lauded. It indeed was a fantastic learning experience for Grade 6 students.



PaintStreak: A creative and eye-catching art exhibition was held on 29th February 2020 which aesthetically displayed the art and craft work of students from grades 1 to 10. The students worked hard throughout the year and their artistic efforts, displayed beautifully, drew a large crowd of parents and students. The following are few of the brilliant categories:

Grade 1: Palm Prints

Grade 2: Cotton Crafts

Grade 3: All Eyes on You

Grade 4: Hanky Holders

Grade 5: Stippled Spots

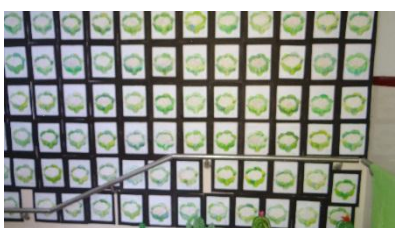
Grade 6: Plethora of Paper, Scenic Sketches

Grade 7: Panoply of Pots, Whiff of Wool

Grade 8: Macramé Wall Hangings, Fevicol Frenzy, Three Dimensional Drawings

Grade 9: Value Work

Grade 10: Madhubani Art, Book Cover Designs



On asking the art teachers, the response was, “We have excellent children with great potential. With just a bit of guidance, they make miracles happen!”

Parents were accompanied by children from across grades to view the exhibits. The cheerful volunteers from grades 7 and 8 helped them understand the nuances and techniques behind the various works of art. The parents were awestruck by the talent showcased by their children and could not resist leaving behind heartwarming, positive feedback.

This experience was spectacular and was enjoyed by parents and students alike.

By Ishita Bedare and Ruhika Uppalapati (Grade 8B)

Spin a Tale:

On 29th February, the budding authors of Grade 4 were brimming with pride as they presented their first published story in the Spin-a -Tale exhibition.

The ten year olds enthusiastically took the visitors through the journey of their maiden effort at writing and printing a novella through a presentation on stage where

they traced the footprints of books through sands of time.



They performed a skit where the text books came alive and highlighted their importance in a child's school bag. The young authors eloquently spoke about finer aspects of story writing, from its genre, characters and setting of the story to the final plot through a magical concoction, a rap and a foot tapping dance number. The efforts of the students were highly appreciated and lauded. It indeed was a fantastic learning experience for Grade 4 students.



StArt , the intra school Art Competition was conducted in school on 29th of Feb, 2020. 85 students participated in the competition under two categories, Category A: Grades 4-5 and Category B: Grades 6-8. All students came up with original works of art. The winners of Category A are 1st prize- Sanskriti Kashyap (5A), 2nd prize- Ananya Ray(4C) and Prachi Nagar (5A), 3rd prize- Nishitashaa J Medhi (4C) and Rahul Raj S(5C) and Category B are, 1st prize- Mridula Vinod (8A), 2nd prize- Maanya Golash(8C) and Ritika Mallick(8B), 3rd prize- Diya Agrawal(8C)

L'I Confectioners:

As a part of stArt 2020', a bake sale was also organised by interested confectioners of Grade 7& 8 in the School ground. There were 15 food items on sale and the yummy bakes sold out in no time. All the money collected through registration and bake sale has been donated to *Karunashraya* (a palliative care home for terminally ill cancer patients).



Professional Development -

Scholastic India conducted a Reading Conclave: Cultivating and Creating a Reading Culture, a session to aid educators to kindle the reading interest in children and nurture it as they grow. The speakers put forth proven strategies and methods to enhance children's reading skills, which have a deeper impact on long term academic performance of the child. The focus was on structured reading in Primary School. The speakers shared best global practices that involved a child-centric approach to develop reading and literacy skills.

Value for February

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." —William Arthur Ward

Thank you! A simple word that has a world of meaning. We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude.

We have left the simplest virtue for the last. We feel that teaching our children gratitude is something that will make them aware and happier individuals. We have started a trend to say thank you for everything that they do! They are learning to say a thank you to the bus driver for bringing them to school, they say thank you to the teacher for helping them when they fall, they say a thank you to the farmer for the food that they are eating, and they say a thank you to the akka for keeping their classroom clean! Studies have shown that children who practice grateful

thinking have a more positive attitude towards school and family. It fosters genuine, stronger bonds and relationships.

Saying thank you to a child can be really powerful. For one, if it's said with sincerity and excitement, a child understands they've done something good, which reinforces their behaviour. All of us take so much for granted that we don't tend to acknowledge the simple things. Your child has made an effort to listen to you when he didn't want to. He was enjoying the game he was playing, but still heard you call him and came at once. Did you forget to say thank you for listening! Believe me he will leave anything to come to you next time too and without grumbling.

Gratitude is healthy for us. Believe it or not, gratitude benefits adults and kids alike on a very basic level. Studies have shown that cultivating

gratitude increases the happiness level by 25%. We can find things to be thankful for in everything that we do. It is easy to complain about what is not there, but do we really say a thank you for what we have. There are two perspectives to a situation. "We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorns have roses." Seeing the positive in a situation will make you more thankful for what you have.

To help inculcate this value at home we recommend a small exercise. Find some time each day to talk about what you are thankful for – perhaps at the dinner table, before bed, or while you are driving in the car. Ask your children, "What was the best part of your day?" Do ask them to record these answers if they can, or you could do it for them. Please do share these notes with us. Teach young children to say "thank you" for example, "Thank

you, Daddy, for making dinner." Encourage children to say thank you throughout the day, especially when you help them get ready for school or drive them to activities. Children have started expecting certain things as if the world owes it to them. Have them thank your help at home for all that they do for them. They need to understand that it is important to be thankful for being part of a family. They will be less likely to look for gifts when grandma comes, knowing the best gift is grandma being there at all.

"Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so, let us all be thankful." – Buddha

From the Newsdesk NPSKRM, let's end this edition feeling thankful for our successes however big or small they are and celebrate the beautiful months of spring.



-Compiled by Ms Geeta Kathait & Ms Prathima with inputs from students & teachers; designed by Ms Jijy George and Ms. Anupama Rao