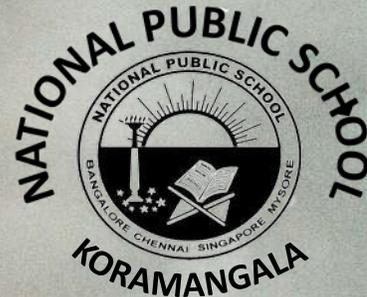


TIDINGS

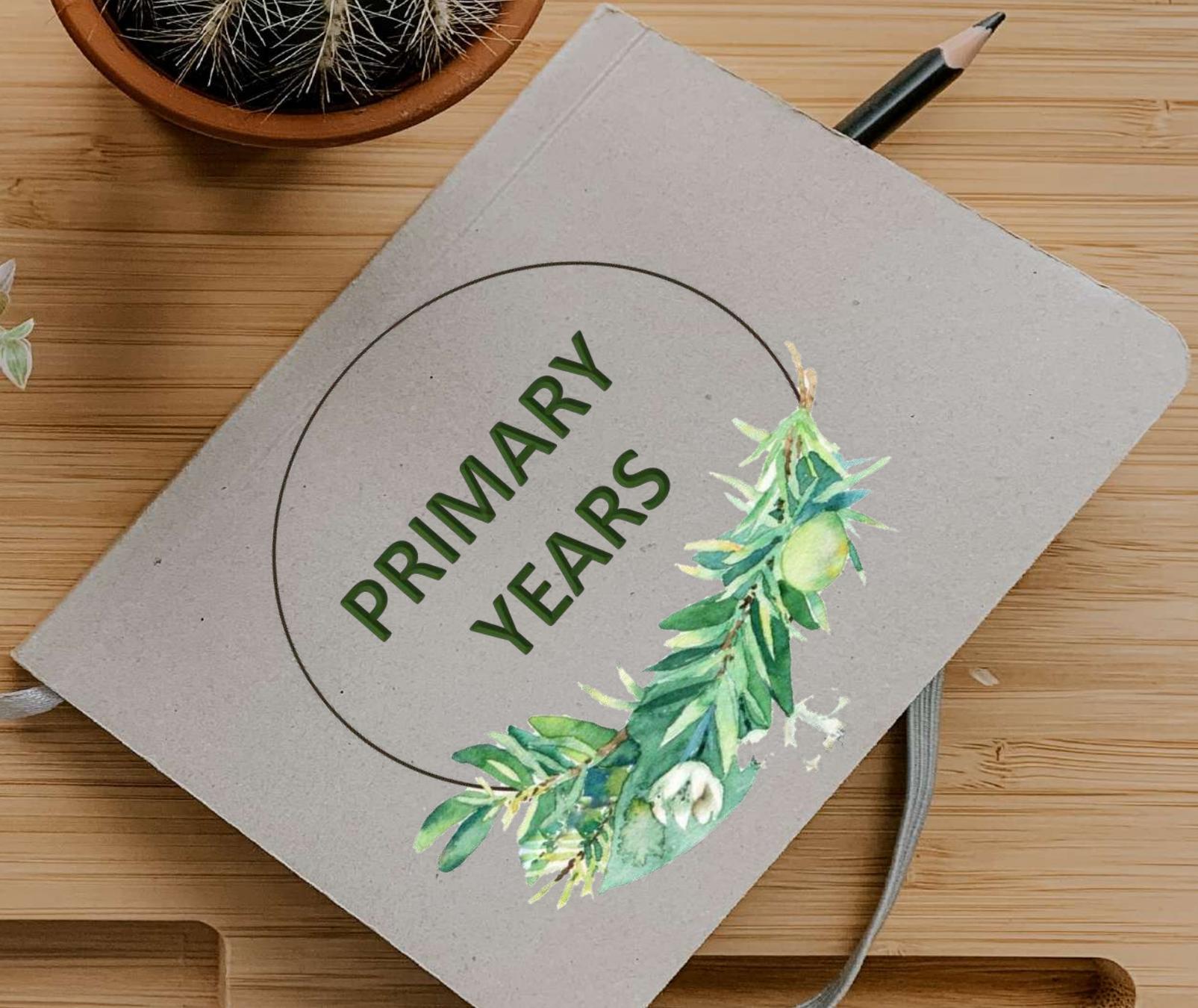


from *Early and Primary Years*

It's springtime, shaking off the slumber of a year past, a year filled with travails, the earth takes a new life and a gust of fresh breath that brings with it new promise. We look on with renewed hope and energy to a year replenishing and reviving all.

Volume 6

February Newsletter





*Where the mind is without fear and head is held high,
where knowledge is free,
where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls,
where words come out from the depth of truth,
where tireless striving stretches its arm towards perfection,
where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way,
into the dreary desert sand of dead habit
where the mind is led forward by thee.
Into ever widening thought and action,
into that heaven of freedom, my Father let my country awake.*

How relevant are these words expressed by Rabindranath Tagore this day and age. His poem, 'Where the mind is without fear' - is a prayer to the God, to lift the country to a state, where freedom would be felt at its best.

There has been much happening since we wrote to you last. January began with a bang with our first virtual sports week, URJA '22 a magnum opus of sorts. Then we went on to rekindle the patriotic fervor on Republic Day and take pride in our Indianness during the Heritage week. Indianness is the beauty or spirit of being Indian from inside.

Virtual Sports Day (URJA-2022)

“Never give up, never give in, and when the upper hand is ours, may we have the ability to handle the win with the dignity that we absorbed the loss.”– Doug Williams

This year began, fraught with another wave of a new variant, but did little to dampen our spirits at NPSKRM, as the online mode continued and we added more feathers to our cap - Sports Day and Heritage Week to name a few.

The Preliminary Events of our maiden Virtual Primary Sports Day, Urja '22, was conducted from 15th November 2021. There were 4 events planned for each grade which were a mix of endurance and fun activities. Students eagerly awaited to take part in each event with full gusto!

Each grade had 4 events which was conducted House-wise in batches. The prelims was conducted over two days (Day-1: Challengers House and Explorers House; Day-2: Voyagers and Pioneers House) The prelims was followed by the Semi-finals.

The finals were conducted from **17th January to 21st January 2022** over our virtual platform, MS Teams. The finalists participated with lot of enthusiasm and displayed true sportsman ship spirit.

“A trophy carries dust. Memories last forever.” Mary Lou Retton



National Public School, Koramangala
URJA' 22
Leader Board

CONGRATULATIONS

House	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total
 CHALLENGERS TO OVERCOME IS TO WIN TO WIN IS TO BE THE BEST	25	50	60	35	30	200
 EXPLORERS DISCOVERING TO REACH BEYOND	10	30	30	40	40	150
 VOYAGERS WATER, WIND, WINGS DISCOVERY	65	Nil	15	25	25	130
 PIONEERS TO LEAD IS TO SERVE TO SERVE IS TO LEAD	20	45	20	25	35	145

The audience cheered as the Leaderboard was showcased at the end of the Events consolidating the Winners of the Final Sports Day Urja '22 as per their Houses. The feedback from parents was overwhelming and encouraging!

Glimpses from Urja'22

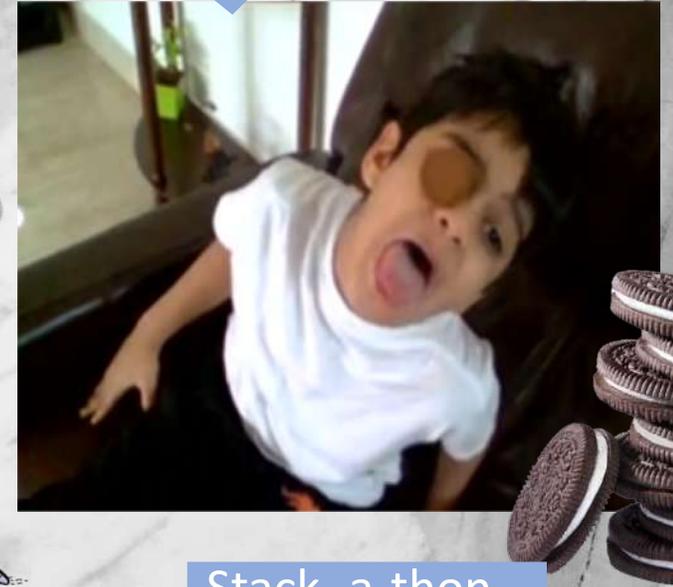
Toe Grab



Upright We Stand



Win it to skim it



Harmony amidst cacophony



Squat-a-Doodle Doo



Speed Bounce



Stretch-o-Mania!



Stack-a-thon



“Without self-discipline, success is impossible, period.” – Lou Holtz



Republic Day

“May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do as of right.”

The 73rd Republic Day was celebrated with gaiety virtually as special class assemblies were held across the Grades. The detailed PPT showcased various aspects of our freedom struggle and highlighted the subsequent journey towards becoming a Republic.

The first and second graders were treated to history of the constitution and included the Republic Day celebration schedule, Evolution of the Indian National Flag, and the National Flag protocol and rules regarding display, size, manufacture etc.

The Grade 3, 4, and 5 delved into the history of the constitution, the meaning of democratic republic form of government. A video was played that included speech, highlighting 73rd Republic Day celebrations by **Siri Shastry**, speech on “My Country India” by **Sneho Roy** students of **Grade 5** describing the greatness of India. The culmination was dance performances by **Grade 3** students - **Advaith Nair and Vibusha Pavan** followed by the National Anthem. A quiz was held based on National Symbols, Republic Day etc.

“Democracy is not merely a form of government. It is primarily a mode of associated living, of conjoint communicated experience. It is essentially an attitude of respect and reverence towards fellow men.” – BR Ambedkar





Celebrating the cultural heritage of India

“India shaped my mind, anchored my identity, influenced my beliefs, and made me who I am. ... India matters to me and I would like to matter to India.” ~ Shashi Tharoor

With this thought and determination, the Primary Grades of NPS, KRM set forth to celebrate Heritage Week in school from Jan 31st- Feb 4th. It was an added feather to the long list of our virtual events.

It was an absolute pleasure to introduce students to what is Heritage, why is it important and the different kinds of heritage on Day 1 of the week. Videos about Incredible India left the students gasping in awe and amazement at the sheer beauty of their country. Activities like storytelling, poster making, recording videos, web quest, photo fest were organised to get students actively involved in the entire pedagogical process.

To experience a sense of belonging, students were asked to wear badges and dress up in traditional attire through the week. Words cannot express the enthusiasm and gusto shown by our students in doing so. A few pictures shared here can only give you a glimpse into the visual treat we were exposed to.

Heritage does not end at monuments or collection of artefacts. It also includes traditions and customs inherited from our ancestors. It includes performing arts, religious and cultural festivals and traditional crafts too. This Intangible Heritage, by its very nature, is fragile and needs protection in the face of growing globalisation.

Day 2 was dedicated to exposure to Cultural Heritage. Students performed classical and folk dances, under the able guidance of our dance teacher. A video about significance of yoga, one of the biggest gifts India has given to the world was shown to students

We have all heard time and again that, Music is a universal language and our students proved that indeed. Students from Gr 4 sang one single song in multiple languages which left the audience mesmerized.

Day 3 provided a short exposure to the wealth of Heritage sites in India. Students were shown a PPT about few important monuments and their history. A Virtual Tour was conducted by Ms. Meenakshi and Ms. Sandhya, where students were taken to Victoria Memorial in Kolkata, and a brief background about it along with few amazing facts were explained. It proved to be a highlight feature of the week, with students asking for more.

It was followed by a Quiz, which verified that students had genuinely enjoyed the virtual tour as they got all the answers spot-on.

A jigsaw puzzle about the Taj Mahal was thoroughly enjoyed by them too, amidst healthy cheer and chatter.

Day 4 turned out to be very appealing to say the least, with students demonstrating how to cook their favourite traditional food at home with grandparents and parents. Break out rooms were alive with laughter and sharing of traditional recipes. The photographs uploaded do no justice to the alluring flavour and food of our country.

Day 5 culminated the week with class assemblies concentrating on India's contribution to the world. Students all solemnly pledged to preserve and protect the culture and heritage of our country. Reflection worksheets were assigned to collect student voices and thoughts and it was wonderful to read the varied responses, each one reflecting learning in some way or the other.

Celebrating the cultural heritage of India

Guest Speakers are an integral part of wholesome learning at NPS. We were fortunate to have Ms. Megha address students of Gr 5 about the history of languages and colonisation in India, while Mr Aditya Arun addressed students of Gr 3 and 4 about the father of Indian cinema and its rich history, through a presentation on Filmy Fable. The talks were extremely informative, enlightening and enjoyable. The Q & A session left our guest speakers quite impressed when the young students asked them very intelligent and relevant questions.

Our In-House story teller Ms Manjari, wove magic with her words and kept students of Gr 1 and 2 enthralled with her talk about Indian heritage, the epics and rich diversity that India embodies.

If you think this was a lot, well, think again because our Life Skills classes kept up the holistic learning by encouraging students to speak and write in their mother tongue for all grades through the week. Art teachers integrated learning by engaging in activities native to our country such as Worli Painting, Rangoli Designs, making Rajasthani Puppets, block printing and so on.

To conclude, I think we can safely say, that in India, we are the repository of an astounding wealth of living patterns, a combination of tangible and intangible heritage. India represents the largest democracy with a seamless picture of diversity in unity, perhaps unparalleled anywhere in the world. Our week-long celebrations could only provide a sneak peek into this store-house of wealth.

This was but a small attempt to rekindle the pride in our students and help them grow into a patriotic generation that goes beyond celebrating Independence Day and Republic Day with fervour.



Glimpses from the Heritage Week



My Hermitage - A bridge between past, present, future.

For the longest time, I've had something on my mind, that of replacing "Hi" with a "Namskara". 15 odd years passed by and it's only now that I find myself comfortable greeting with a word rooted in our culture.

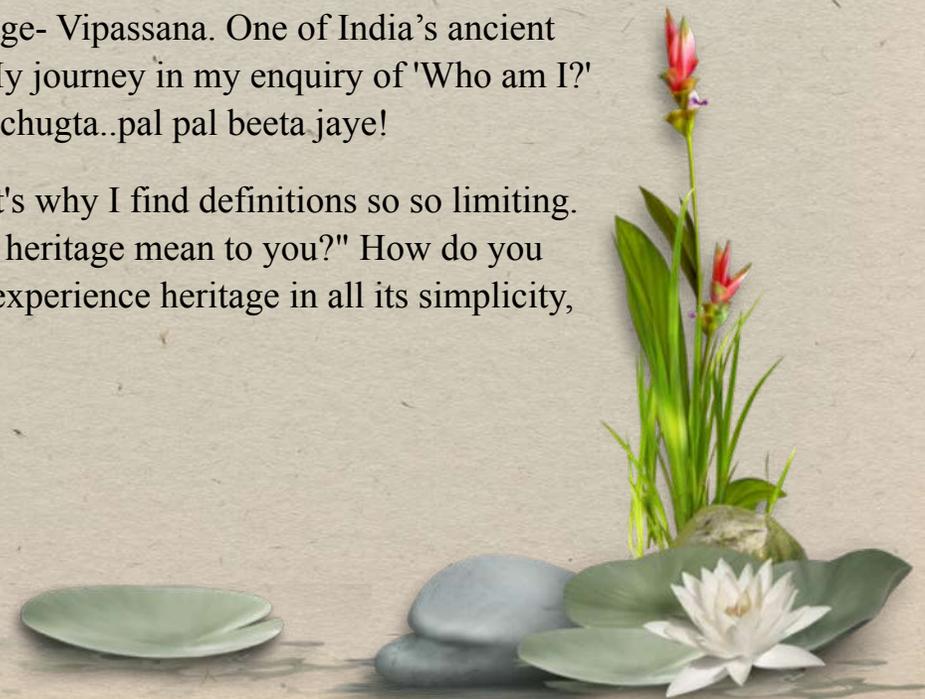
I read in an article that in a survey of 25,000 Indians aged 15 to 25, spanning over 400 towns this topic of 'Being proud of your Heritage' was investigated. This research revealed that young Indians are no longer blinded by their determined explorations of Western culture. They're returning to their roots to find that India and its rich traditions are cool. They feel they can succeed right here at home and they want to make positive change. A land of Love (Prem Nagari), a land of Emotions (Bhaav nagari), a land soaked in rich heritage, a land we call home.

So, what does Heritage mean to me? Is it something I inherited from my ancestors or the land I come from? Or is it about nature and my rhythmical binding to it? Is it symbolic of traditions, culture, food? Or is it all this and more...

A musical coincidence. My search for answers met at crossroads with a beautiful part of our heritage- Vipassana. One of India's ancient meditation techniques that was rediscovered by Gautam Buddha approximately 2500 years ago. My journey in my enquiry of 'Who am I?' took me back in time to the 15th century Indian mystic poet and saint Kabir's dohe. Kabir tuk tuk chugta..pal pal beeta jaye!

Look up the dictionary and it defines Heritage as- "Property that is or may be inherited." Now, that's why I find definitions so so limiting. There's strength and beauty in asking and staying with the questions, isn't it? So I ask, "What does heritage mean to you?" How do you connect with yours? As for me, I want to travel to the interiors of India and live with the locals to experience heritage in all its simplicity, to connect with the soul of this land in every breath it takes. My Hermitage.

- Hetal Shah



EARLY YEARS



We would like to celebrate with you.

Your wedding is the most important day of our lives. No dress code. Come as you are!

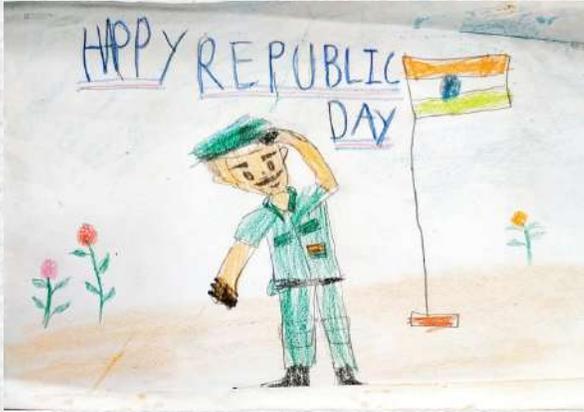
Fotografie: Amy Neunsinger *arrange at Home*

Republic Day Celebration:

On January 26th 2022 we celebrated our 75th Republic Day which marks the celebration of the empowerment of the Indian citizens to select their own government which means **“of the people, for the people and by the people”**.

Our young citizens from Early Years also celebrated Republic Day virtually, which included patriotic singing and dancing. Teachers shared a video which explained the true meaning as to why we celebrate Republic Day. They also spoke how we should follow rules to maintain peace and harmony and live as responsible citizens. Children spoke about the various states of our country dressed in traditional attire.

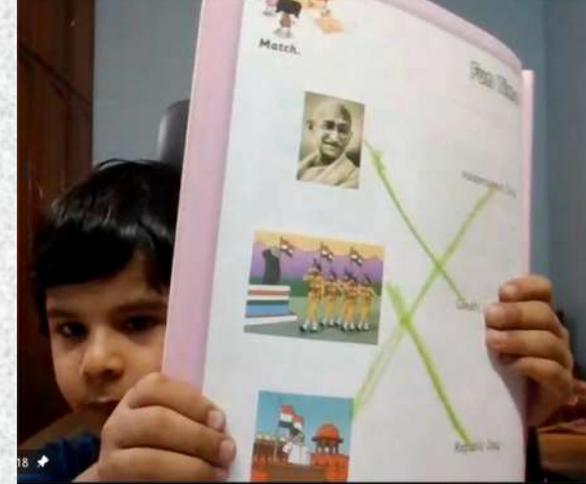
It is the day to reaffirm our commitment to Unity in Diversity, Fraternity and Equality among all our citizens.



*Freedom in the mind, strength in the words, pureness
in our blood, pride in our souls, zeal in our hearts, let's
salute India on Republic Day.*



Jai Hind!



Martin Luther King, Jr., "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

Gratitude being the value for the month, the students of Early Years were asked to make thank you cards and were encouraged to perform small acts of kind gestures to showcase their appreciation towards their house helpers, cooks, drivers or caregivers anyone working to keep us safe, healthy and happy.

Gratitude is a beautiful way of enriching our lives. It refers to the feeling and attitude of appreciation and thankfulness for the good which we receive in life. It helps build higher levels of happiness and optimism. Teaching children to say 'Thankyou' is the first step towards laying a strong foundation of gratitude. Together, let's demonstrate our gratefulness and let the helpers know how much we value their service and commitment.



Sankranti Celebration: New year brings in joy, love, peace and happiness!!

Come January and it's the beginning of the Harvest festivals celebrated all over India. Our children ushered the festival of Makara Sankranti by making Ellu Bella and distributing to all their family members. The children were shown a video on the how Sankranti is celebrated in different parts of India. The little ones of Early Years tried their hands on making rangoli with rice flour, it was a challenging and an enriching experience. They enjoyed making kites as part of their craft activity.



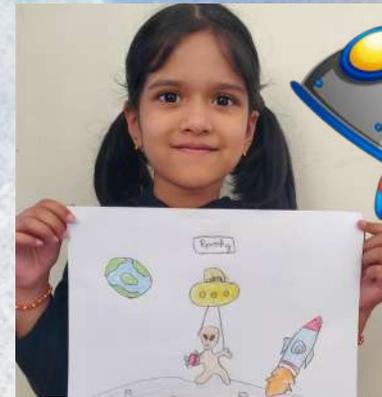
“Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see and wonder about what makes the universe exist. Be curious. And however difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at. It matters that you don't just give up.” — Stephen Hawking

Holding true to the above quote, our shining stars of KG2 aimed to blast out into the space with a culmination event on Saturday, 5th February 2022. The session started with the quiz where students were able to answer without inhibition. Children then were in for a treat in the breakout rooms where hands-on activities like painting the sun, drawing an alien with magical powers, rocket paper craft, edible constellations and fruity solar system were planned for them.

Children were very excited to display their creativity and share their knowledge with their peers. The event was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by one and all.



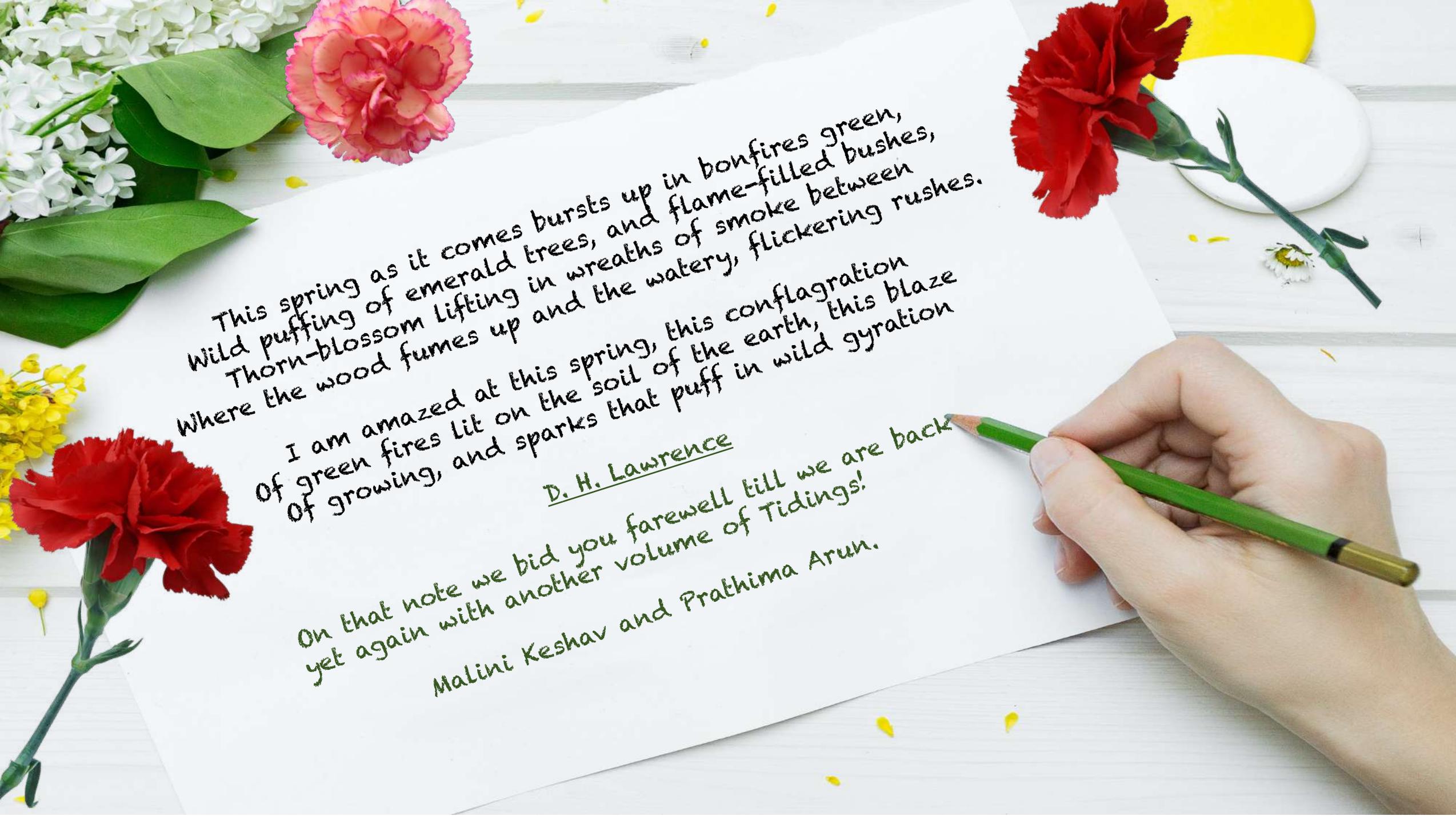
JOURNEY
into
SPACE





Calvin's reasoning..



A hand holding a green pencil is writing on a white card. The card is placed on a white wooden surface. There are several flowers around the card: a large pink carnation at the top left, a red carnation at the top right, a red carnation at the bottom left, and a small white daisy at the bottom right. There are also some yellow flower petals scattered around. The text on the card is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

This spring as it comes bursts up in bonfires green,
Wild puffing of emerald trees, and flame-filled bushes,
Thorn-blossom lifting in wreaths of smoke between
Where the wood fumes up and the watery, flickering rushes.

I am amazed at this spring, this conflagration
Of green fires lit on the soil of the earth, this blaze
Of growing, and sparks that puff in wild gyration

D. H. Lawrence

On that note we bid you farewell till we are back
yet again with another volume of Tidings!

Malini Keshav and Prathima Arun.