

*NEWS
LETTER*

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National Public

*School,
Koramangala*



“While it is February, one can taste the full joys of anticipation. Spring stands at the gate with her finger on the latch.” – Patience Strong.



It is not about being the best, it's about being better than you were yesterday.

‘The soldier, above all other people, prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.’ The brave may not live forever, but the cautious do not live at all.

We begin this edition on a subdued note as we pay homage to our brave soldiers who laid down their lives in the brutal Pulwama attack. We salute our brave martyrs who die so that we may live.

To mark our solidarity as a peace loving nation, we at NPSKRM observed **White Monday on the 18th of February** and observed two minutes silence for the souls of our brave hearts.

The month of February saw our Twelfth graders graduating, our budding entrepreneurs notching business acumen during Market Day, our young and aspiring novelists spinning tantalizing tales, adorable singers reveling through Magical Melodies and our dexterous artists putting up an alluring exhibition. Besides that a lot more...please read on!

Achievements

TISB Inter School Mathematics competition was held on the 16th of February. Sixteen schools from all over Bangalore came together in a fierce

fray. NPS Koramangala was represented by **Kaustubh Roy, Rohith Paul and Pranjal Srivastava**. The format of the competition was very interesting, and the questions were challenging. Our team breezed through the initial two rounds with relative ease. However, the final round, structured as a treasure hunt with Mathematical clues, made the whole experience exhilarating for the participants. NPS Koramangala secured **1st position** in a closely fought battle with barely 17 seconds to spare.



Vishweshwariah Industrial and Technological Museum conducted their Bangalore district level school annual science quiz from 9th August 2018 to 27th February 2019. After a series of five rounds of multiple level competitions, our students

Vinayaka M and A P Vaideeswaran emerged the winners. They received a trophy, certificate and science books from the museum.



Spotlight, the music competition conducted by Subramaniam Academy of Performing Arts was held on the 4th of February at SAPA Sanjaynagar. **A. Vishwajeet of grade 10** won the title **SAPA Star** in the category - International Music Instrumental Solo. He played a piano solo (**blindfolded**) in the final round. He also secured the Grand Prize (Overall) in the competition which won him a scholarship with SAPA for a year.

Lit up 2019

Lit Up 2019, the Literature Fest organized by grade 8 students of NPS HSR was held on 7th February. There were a plethora of events like Treasure Hunt, Journalism, Literary Quiz, Slam Poetry, Debate and Stand-up Comedy. Our team comprising **Neha Chundury, Sharon Paul Sathya, Swati Nair, Abhishek Noronha** and

Nand Vincchi from grade 8 emerged victorious in Fast and Clue-rious (Treasure Hunt). Our budding poets, **Godha Mandya, Sarah Thomas and Khushi Sharma** won on-the-spot Slam Poetry event called Versesmith. **Gokul Vemuri, Mridhula Vishwanath and Avyaktha Voruganti** secured second place in the literary quiz- The Quizzard of Oz.

Cap Sci – Fi 2018 – 19

NPS K participated in Cap Sci – Fi on 9th February 2019, the first Capstone High Science Fair. The team comprising **M Radaan Kumar, Ayaan Kidwai and Pranav Goyal** secured overall third position. The team made a Gesture Controlled Robotic Arm. The theme of the project was Space and Robotics. They received a cash prize of Rs. 3000.

IIMB MUN 2019

Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) conducted MUN on 16th and 17th February 2019 for students in the age group 10 - 25. It was an extremely enriching experience for our grade 8 students. Participation in such a wide ranging age group gave students a broad perspective on leadership, oratorical and communication skills. **Pranav Goyal** of grade 8A was awarded the **Young**

Student Special Mention, and a **cash prize of Rs. 2500/-.**

CISCO

Cisco Talent Outreach Programme was initiated in July 2018 as collaboration between Cisco and high school students across various schools in Bangalore. The team comprising **Advaith Suresh, Niveditha S Iyer, Pranav Parigi, Romir K, Samay Godika and Vidushi Bhartari** of **Grade 11** represented NPS Koramangala.

The team created an event coordination platform, **Event Horizon**, to help their school reduce and manage road blocks during inter and intra school events. They used computational tools, Mongo DB and Angular JS to develop it. The portal enables event organizers to understand the demographics of the participants and assists in venue setup. **Event Horizon** strives to create a user friendly experience which increases transparency and accessibility, making it easier for student users to become aware of and sign up for new events.

From July to January, the students worked on collaborative platforms such as GitHub and Webex under able guidance of their mentors. In the process of conducting user base studies, setting deadlines and holding

meetings, they gained work experience and gleaned insights into the functioning of corporate world.

On 6th February, a formal project presentation was made for all the participating groups, teachers, parents as well as Cisco representatives. Students also had a unique opportunity to attend a Cyber Security workshop and meet the world renowned badminton player, **Pullela Gopichand.** The team garnered a very positive feedback from the audience.

They hope to continue work on this project and launch it in NPS Koramangala, before inviting more schools onto the Event Horizon platform.



Sports

Prakash Saran of Grade 4 emerged as the **Boys' Single Champion in SAT AITA (All India Tennis Association) Under 10 Tennis Tournament held in February 2019.** His **AITA National Ranking is 107.**

TISB Interschool Badminton Tournament was held on 14th and 15th February 2019 for the

students of Grade 9 and below. Out of the 10 teams that participated, our boys emerged first.

The team comprised **Prithvi Bapna 9C, Madhav N Rathi 8A, Devansh Mishra 8A and Shreyas Pathak 8C. Prithvi Bapna** was awarded the **Most Valuable Player of the tournament.** Our girls' team secured the second place. **The team comprised Nikita Kiran 9C, Arya Chaturvedi 8A, Nishtha Ladi 8C and Mallika Gupta 7A.**

TISB Interschool Basketball Tournament was held from 18th to 20th February 2019 for the students of Grade 6 and below. **Our boys' team was the winner. The team comprised Allen D Louis 6A, Srinath V 6C, Ameya Mishra 6C, Anirudd Archak 6C, P K Vishnu Kumar 6C, Aarush R Jain 5A, Anirudh Srinivas 5A, Anhad Singh Pahwa 5B, Advait Pradeep 5B, Pranit Goel 5B, Samarth D Gowda 5B and Raahil Prakash 5C. Allen D Louis** was awarded the **Most Valuable Player** of the tournament.

TISB Interschool Tennis Tournament was held from 18th to 20th February 2019 for the students of Grade 6 and below. Out of the 10 teams that participated our boys emerged first.

The team comprised **Prakash Saran S 4C, Rudra Kothiyal 5C, Rakshak Jain 6B and Vansh Aggarwal 6C. Rakshak Jain** was awarded the **Most Valuable Player** of the tournament.



Major Events

Graduation Day

National Public School Koramangala bid a warm adieu to its fourteenth batch of 12th graders at the Graduation ceremony on 2nd Feb. 2019.

The Chief Guest Mrs. Vaishali Kasture, Co-Founder of Sonder Connect accompanied by the

Chairman, National Public Group of Schools – Dr K P Gopalkrishna, and the Director Dr Bindu Hari graced the occasion.

A lovely flashback tale of Grads' cherished moments preluded the splendid evening. To choose what is right over what is easy, serve society with empathy and to always retain the optimism of a leader, were few of the choicest advice imparted by the dignitaries to the passing out batch that made the evening richer and memorable.

A scroll and a CD were presented to each of the graduates. Tanisha S Paramba and Pooja Rajesh shared their beautiful memories and spoke eloquently about how their alma mater has shaped them into able and confident students. School Prefect, Neha Sharon Jacob 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.

Principal, Mrs Jyotsna Nair declared the students graduands reminding them to persevere and remain true to their conscience.

The evening matured as the candles were lit and the sonorous melody of the School Song serenaded the atmosphere. With a wish on

the lips and a prayer in their hearts the school fraternity bid goodbye and 'Hogi Banni' to this enthusiastic and affectionate Class of 2019.



Market Day

National Public School, Koramangala organised 'Market Day' on 23rd February 2019 with great gusto. Attractive home décor and personal utility products like coasters, fridge magnets, napkins, organisers, flower pots, silk thread bangles, trays, organizers, phone charging bags etc. were up for grabs in the buzzing bazaar.

Under the **Entrepreneurial Programme** the grade 6 students managed the entire event, right from the concept of products, their



development, investment and market strategies, production to their sales, under the constant guidance of their teachers. With the parents investing money on the young entrepreneurs, the proceeds from the sales were donated to a charity identified by the school and the capital duly returned to the investors after the successful sales.

At the end of the event, students not only enthusiastically learnt how to create a business, sell products, advertise, calculate expenses, practice customer service, figure out profits but also identified a successful entrepreneur in themselves.





published story in **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.

The young authors eloquently spoke about different aspects of story writing, from its genre, characters, setting to the plot as they proudly showcased their books.



offered a myriad of commendable art and craft work like Origami wall art, 3D Outline work on printed cloth, Grain Baskets, Blow painting, M-Seal and Jute work on canvas, optical illusions, Jamini Roy reproductions and much more done as class projects throughout the year. The jungle scene, with exquisitely crafted animals standing guard, was the cynosure of all eyes. Grade 8 volunteers explained the various projects to the admiring visitors.



Other Events



Spin a Tale

On 23rd February, the budding authors of Grade 4 were brimming with pride as they presented their first

Art Exhibition

It was held on 23rd February to showcase the artistic talent of the students from grade 1-12. Skillfully curated by the art teachers, the exhibition



Magical Melodies



their children at a very young age shape them into a self-motivated, punctual, responsible and hardworking adults with a never-give-up attitude.

StArt

NPS Koramangala hosted StArt, an annual inter-school art competition for Grades 4 to 11, along with a bake sale on 9th February 2019.

Hundred and fourteen students from ten schools participated in the event. Divided into three categories, the students were given topics on the spot.

The little artists were at their best and the judges had a tough time finalising the winners. While L Navaneetha from NPS-Yashwantpur secured first position in Primary category (Grades 4 & 5), Sara Pole from NAFL and Pragya Gupta from NPS Koramangala were the winners in Middle (Grades 6 to 8) and Senior (Grades 9 to 11) categories, respectively.



Music is the strongest form of magic, said Marilyn Manson, and this was proved beyond any doubt on February 23rd, when our tiny tots from the Early Learning put up a fabulous show the 'Magical Melodies'.



The KG2, KGI and the Montessori, children from each grade sang six songs in different languages, perfectly in sync to the beats of the drums, tabla and the keyboard. The show culminated with a grand finale where all the children came together to render a beautiful song, which was indeed magical.



The show can undoubtedly be called a musical extravaganza, a true treat to the ears!



The Principal, Ms. Jyotsna Nair gave a motivational and inspiring speech which was much appreciated by the audience. She emphasised that the parents who invest in





The amount collected from the registration for the event and profits from the bake sale were donated to Karunashray Bangalore Hospice Trust for cancer patients.

Body Positivity Talk by School Counsellor

What makes you beautiful?

Is it having a chiseled face, a sharp jawline or a gorgeous physique? The truth is that none of those things make you beautiful. What truly makes you beautiful is, your inner beauty.

This was the message given to the girls of Grade 9 by the School Counsellor, Ms. Sunanda Vinayachandran on The session on Body

Positivity started with an engaging discussion gauging students' definition of beauty. They all concluded that they defined a slender, sophisticated and petite girl as beautiful. Thereafter, Ms. Vinayachandran spoke about how our society has conditioned us to believe unnatural thinness attractive. Consequently, today's youth, the strayed followers of this misplaced sense of beauty, easily falls prey to the eating disorders like anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating. The counsellor warned against the serious consequences of these disorders on health, productivity and relationships. The session concluded with the distribution of worksheets to encourage students to review the lesson learnt.

-Devanshi Dasgupta, 9B

Body Positivity Talk by the students, for the students

On 6th February 2019 **Anusha V** and **Devanshi Dasgupta** of Grade 9 conducted a session on Body Positivity for Grade 6-8 students, with an objective to pass on what they had learnt from the counsellor Ms. Sunanda Vinayachandran. The session aimed to change the students' perspective on

external appearance and make them realise that there are different ways of being beautiful. The purpose was to help them accept themselves as they are and to improve their self-esteem. The audience was familiarized with the dangers of eating disorders, self-doubt and low confidence levels. It was also mentioned that society has accepted certain preconceived notions about beauty which they should never pay any heed to. A heated debate between outer beauty and inner beauty had the audience thinking about the meaning of true beauty. The talk ended with a music video - *Scars to Your Beautiful* and a pledge- ***'I am beautiful just the way I am, and nothing can change that.'***

Anusha Venkatraman, 9 C

Changemakers Programme



Changemakers Educational Programme for the 7th graders has completed its second year in the school. The last three months of the programme witnessed students start independent Changemaker Initiatives to solve real-world problems at home, school and their community. Twenty Four different initiatives were launched by the students, each one unique in its own way. For instance, **Rachana Rao, Rishika Gupta, S Jayavardhini and Sara Chhabra of 7B** were successful in inspiring five juice shop owners in Bangalore to replace the plastic straws used by them to the ones made with paper and reduce plastic pollution. **Aravind Shivaraj, Krrish Das, Ruhaan Alva and Sagar C of 7C** collected and donated more than 250+ KG of clothes to an NGO called Goonj. **Disha Kannan, Renee Tanya George, Sara Parikh and Varsha V S of 7C** went door to door and sold a massive 256 snake plants (plants that purify air at home) to people, helping them breathe better. These are just 3 out of 24 different initiatives that solved real-world problems.

What is really interesting to know is that students

independently identified the problems they liked to work on, formed their own teams, thought of their own solutions, and implemented them.

Through their efforts, they have developed the vital 21st century skills of empathy, teamwork, creative problem-solving and collaborative leadership. What's more? Here's another set of amazing news! Changemakers Education Programme will be initiated for Grades 6 and 8 as well from the next academic year.



Talk on personal hygiene and safety

A session on first aid and safety was conducted by the school nurse, Ms. Smitha for the Montessori students on

1st February. The session included the instructions on first aid procedure for minor bleeding, fainting and nose bleeding. It also incorporated instructions regarding hygiene routine and good touch - bad touch. The children responded well and assimilated the simple instructions given to them.



Class Assembly

Grade 7C presented their class assembly on 7th February. Students spoke about the *Importance of Dreams*. They eloquently expressed how dreams, seen with open eyes, lead us on, and serve as a beacon of light. The young dreamers wish to see India as a peaceful, progressive nation. Through inspiring poems and speeches they fervently stimulated the audience to challenge themselves and nurture dreams that won't let them sleep.





Inter house Competition- Street Play

The last Inter house competition (grade 6-8) of the year, Street Play, was held on 13th February. All the four houses fiercely competed with each other in a dramatically charged event.



Each house chose the theme based on environment. While the winner of the show **Challengers** displayed the disastrous consequences of getting ourselves married to *Pollution*, the **Voyagers**, the first runners up, highlighted the rapid extinction of various species.



The Explorers, the second runners up, laid bare today's hideous reality with Sponge Bob and Squidward writhing in the slushy oil spills in our oceans.

The Pioneers displayed the ghastly results of our covetous materialism.



Award ceremony and writing workshop

The officials of University of East Anglia visited the school on 6th February to give away the awards to **Abhinav Menon and Vidushi Bhartari of Grade 11** (as declared in the November-December Newsletter) for securing second and third runners –up respectively in 'Your Success Story' Creative Writing competition organized by University of East Anglia, UK. They won a cash prize of INR 20,000 each and a scholarship worth 20% of tuition fees. In addition to the award ceremony, a work shop on Creative Writing (Story Writing) for grade 11 was also organized by them.

Students gained useful insights into various elements, strategies and tips to story writing.

International Mother Language Day

International Mother Language Day was celebrated on 21st & 22nd February. On both days five students each from grades 1 to 3, attired in their native costume, represented their home state. They addressed the assembly in their mother tongue, familiarising the audience with their culture. They spoke in Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, Punjabi, Marathi, Bengali, Oriya, Assamese and Nawayathi-the last being a language almost unheard of, brought a wave of excited new learning among all.

Old Age Home Visit

Students of grade 10C visited the Old Age Home run by Little Sisters of the Poor on 9th February. Grade 10 had adopted this old age home for the academic year as part of the SEWA programme.

All through the year, the entire Grade 10 has been visiting, entertaining and interacting with the residents. 9th February 2019 was the day of their last visit for the academic year.



The students were taken around the home and shown the facility. They donated various items to the Home and spent quality time with the residents. The highlight of the visit was a talk by Sister Josephine, in-charge of the Home. She stressed on the need to be always empathetic, not just on a few visits. She exhorted the students to love and spend time with their own grandparents too.

Visit to Indian Institute of Astrophysics

On the occasion of National Science Day, 28th February, students of grade 8 visited Indian Institute of Astrophysics. The students were shown simple experiments on basic principles of Physics like Gaussian Gun, Alcohol Thermometer, Light

Dependent Resistors, Hot Air Balloons and methods of spotting an exoplanet by an enthusiastic team of instructors. The students too, on their part, were equally receptive and full of scientific fervor that broadened their scientific outlook.

The day's program was interspersed with various rationales and anecdotes, spurring teachers to inspire students to be every day scientists.

Field Trip

Grade 2 students went for a field trip to Ramee Guest line Resort, Attibele on 12th February, accompanied by their class teachers, associate teachers and support staff. Students were treated to a wholesome and delicious breakfast upon arrival at the resort.

Several games had been organized to ensure team work, fun and frolic. Children too had carried bats, balls and racquets to play amongst themselves.

A scrumptious lunch was served which the students enjoyed thoroughly. Some of them won prizes for the games they played. Students returned to the school tired but joyous with many fond memories of a wonderful field trip.

Montessori and KG

It is said that safety is as simple as ABC 'Always Be Careful'. Hence, the topic for the month of February had activities involving safety. The Mont seniors were taken to the Fire Station where they relished a fun filled session conducted by an enthusiastic group of Firemen. The children also got to do a variety of worksheets along with colourful art and craft work. The month concluded with a musical Audio Video Presentation, a consolidation of the topic 'Safety'. It was truly an action packed month for our little ones.

Workshops-

Autism Conference

A two-day comprehensive International Conference on Autism was conducted by Behavior Momentum of India at Taj Vivanta, M. G. Road, Bangalore and attended by Ms. P. Sree Vidhya, Special Educator, and Ms. Rose Cherian Ramapuram on 23rd and 24th February. The main focus of this event was to build pathways for Autism services through interdisciplinary collaborations. Speakers from around the world came to give the participants an insight into various effective studies and methodologies used in this area.



Science Day Workshop for Teachers

On the occasion of Science Day, 28th February, a Science Workshop was organised by SCIENCE UTSAV & tACT at Raman Research Institute.

It was attended by the Science teachers **Ms. Pramila Menon (Biology)**, **Ms. Vipina Karthic (Chemistry)** and **Ms. Vishu Nair (Physics)**. The inauguration of the event was conducted in a unique and scientific way using chemical reactions.

The first lecture on Optical Phenomena in Nature was by Shri H R Madhusudan of J N Planetarium, Bangalore.

It was an eye-opener on how to observe things around us, and also to motivate our students to be curious.

The pictorial depictions and explanations on the principles behind them were illuminating.



The hands on Science activities and STEM activities involved brain storming and the teachers could take away ideas about making learning of Science interesting.

The interactive session on Pedagogy with Dr. N S Leela was very informative and interesting.

The day ended with a rewarding visit to the Raman Museum showcasing the largest collection by an individual i.e. Dr. C V Raman.

The day's program was interspersed with various rationales and anecdotes, spurring teachers to inspire students to be every day scientists.

Don't cringe by the trials and tribulations that life hurls on us. You yourself don't know what strength is lying inside you, so bravely move on and savour life.

As Arnold Palmer said:

The most rewarding things you do in life are often the ones that look like they cannot be done.

Here's wishing our students "All the Best" for their" upcoming Annual Examinations.

"Adeus " (goodbye, in Konkani), from the News desk at NPS KRM.

Compiled by *Ms Geeta Kathait & Ms Prathima with inputs from students & teachers; designed by Ms Jijy George and Ms. Kavitha*

