

CHRONICLES OF NPSI, CHENNAI

1st July 2022

UPDATES FOR PARENTS OF NPSI, CHENNAI

The purpose of a good education is to show you that
there are three sides to a two-sided story

STANLEY FISH



Overview

- A Fresh Start
- Early years
- Orientation for new parents
- Academic Activities
- Assessments
- Achievements
- Sports ECA
- Selection for inter school competitions
- Events

A FRESH START

The reopening day proved momentous as children returned to the campus with enthusiasm and joy. With reopening of school staggered across grades, the sound of laughter and talk filled the corridors again. Students of the senior years (SY) were the first to arrive along with the tiny tots of Early Years (EY). The school threw its doors open for the students of the Primary (PY) and Middle Years (MY) in the second week of June.

The first day of school was indeed an opportunity for students to interact with each other and their teachers. Transitioning children into regular school days was a priority for us given that the larger part of two years has seen them indoors, with the screen and limited exposure to sunlight. Assemblies and exercise were eased into the routine to facilitate this transition. Our teachers spent time bonding and renewing connections with them.

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

ELEANOR TOOSEVELT



EARLY YEARS

For EY, we opened school in a phased manner allowing them to ease into the regular schedule over a period of a wee, beginning with Mont freshers and KG 1 students followed by Mont seniors and KG 2 students. The GMC campus was buzzing with positive energy with our tiny tots moving in.

Mont freshers and KG 1 students took time to settle into their environments, carefully guided by their teachers. However, senior students showed excitement to explore their classrooms, make new friends and bond with their teachers.

Children have started understanding their routine in the school. They were also familiarised with the new areas like outdoor play area, library, music and activity room and expectations were set for them to follow. Yoga Day was celebrated with simple asanas practiced indoors which they all enjoyed.

We look forward to doing much more with our youngest students through the year.



ORIENTATIONS FOR NEW PARENTS

A special orientation session was conducted for parents of new students to ease them into the academic journey. They were introduced to the faculty and were briefed on the school policies, procedures, assessment patterns, homework policy among other key areas.

ASSESSMENTS

Students of grades 10 and 12 attempted their first Unit Tests (UTs). Papers were evaluated, shared and learning gaps were discussed. As part of routine teaching learning methods, teachers have been conducting small reviews/check ins in class to assess understanding. This year, we have extended across subjects in a structured manner. These are meant to guide the teacher and students on areas that further strengthening.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

With the children settling in, the scholastic routines have begun in full earnest. With children involved in hands-on activities designed to support the curriculum, the month has, undoubtedly, gained new experiences. From categorizing food as healthy or unhealthy to making paper bags and origami dogs to playing bingo with conjunctions and checking the pulse, the students of primary years showed that learning can be fun. Scientific reasoning was the order of the day as the students of the middle years enjoyed their discussing and analysing concepts including comparing the rate of osmosis in raisins and groundnut and identifying phyllotaxy and venation in plants around the campus.

SPORTS ECA

Our sports faculty is offering special coaching in the evenings for select students. This is to train them towards district and state level competitions. We are sure our students will benefit from these sessions.

SELECTIONS FOR INTER SCHOOL COMPETITIONS

Over the years, our students have participated and bagged awards in numerous inter school competitions. To offer all our students a fair chance, we conducted selections across various categories including dance, music, art, literary among others. Selected students will be intimated soon.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS (PTMS)

PTMs were arranged in the school campus for grades 10 and 12. These were kicked off early in the year to ensure that parents, teachers and students are on the same page when it comes to preparing towards the Board exam next year. Subject teachers had interactions with parents and discussed strategies to support every child.

ACHIEVEMENTS

We couldn't have had a better start to this year with our students winning accolades. In the Math Olympiad Competition, **Nirav R Vijay** (Grade 10B) has secured a certificate in Merit. He will look into to make it to the top next year. **Prithiv Arokiadass** (grade 4B) participated in the Tamilnadu State Chess Championship and National Selection Tournament and secured 6th position at the State level by winning 7 out of 9 matches. At a district level Silambam competition held in Jain Public School which had over 300 participants, our students **K J Diya** (Grade 10B) won the gold medal in Under 17 while **K J Dhruv** (Grade 6B) and **Yukthi S** (Grade 6D) won the bronze medal. The District Level First Prize Trophy was also won by our children. Congratulations to all!



Events

FOUNDER'S DAY

The events calendar of the school begins with the Founder's Day celebrations. This year's celebrations, held in the newly-inaugurated auditorium was that much more special with the presence of our Founder Chairman Dr KP Gopalkrishna. We also had several dignitaries including Chairman Dr. K P Gopalakrishna, Vice Chair-person Dr Bindu Hari, Administrator Ms. Lalitha Das among others. Addressing the gathering, our Principal Ms. Sudha Balan shared the genesis, philosophy and vision of the NPS group. The highlight of the event was the presentation of a portrait of the Chairman painted by our Art faculty, Mr. Jaya Gowtham; a painting that portrayed the enthusiasm, joy and humility of the great visionary. The program, interspersed with song and dance performances, was well appreciated by students and parents alike.



WORLD MUSIC DAY

Music transcends all boundaries and has the ability to touch the soul and lift spirits. The Chief Guest for the day, renowned flautist and winner of several accolades, Ms. Mala Chandrasekhar, was the highlight of the day. Accompanied by Sri Neyveli Skandasubramaniam on the mridangam, Sri Trichy Murali on the ghatam and Sri Kumbakonam M.R.Gopinath on the violin, the lilting music that included popular songs like maha ganapathim, kurai ondrum illai, and maithreem bhajatha filled the arena and provided an auditory and visual treat to our children. The music was interspersed with valuable insight into musical instruments. The audience were left in awe of the music and the performers.





INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

The day began with the children, dressed in pristine white, performing the various asanas and mudras under the guidance of our faculty. The senior students gathered in a spacious room and performed asanas with our faculty who is a yoga practitioner. The entire school, reverberating with chants of aum, appeared calm and serene and was filled with positive energy fuelling optimism throughout the day.

SCHOOL LEADER ELECTIONS & INVESTITURE CEREMONY

Campaigns for the Prefect and Vice-Prefect posts provided the perfect opportunity for the students of SY to know their candidates better before they went to polls to formally elect their student leaders. The results of the elections and the office bearers were formally announced to the delight of one and all in the formal Investiture Ceremony. Our Principal, Ms. Sudha Balan, and the Chief Guest, Dr Vasanth Kumar Chandran congratulated the office bearers and offered them invaluable advice on the roles of leaders and the codes of conduct associated with these positions.





GRADE 12 ASSEMBLY

The Class Assemblies for the year kicked off with the senior-most students performing theirs in the auditorium. Themed on 'Cinema', the students provided a glimpse of the world of Indian cinema and the effort it takes to produce one. The entire show produced as one humorous skit contained all the elements of the assembly and was well enjoyed.

MUN AND PLUNGE

With our school hosting the Mock United Nations and the interschool science fest, Plunge, SY students are working tirelessly towards these events. It gives me immense pride to witness them take on the mantle of organisers, judges and volunteers, picking up life skills and experiences along the way. Wishing them the best in their endeavours.





VANAMOHOTSAV WEEK

Vana Mahotsav – the celebration of plants is an annual affair that encourages students to plant saplings and increase the green cover of the community. Students were encouraged to save seeds from fruits and use them to create seed balls. The week-long celebration witnessed the older students enjoying a video on earth, trees, and their significance while the younger ones enjoyed sowing seeds in small pots and containers. The students of upper primary and middle years performed varied tasks including clearing areas for growing plants and watering them. They sowed the seeds in a grow bed created for this purpose. A video was played across grades on this unique festival and the immediate need for all of us to care for the environment. The entire week was an opportunity for our children to grow in tune with nature.



OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Students of **Isha Samskriti**, a school run under the aegis of Isha Foundation displayed their artistic skills to drive home the message of saving the soil. As part of the **Save the Soil campaign** initiated by Sadhguru a few months back, video messages, songs and dance were used to highlight the gravity of the situation. Students were encouraged to work with their parents and build a safe and productive environment in their own ways.

As part of our staff professional development initiatives, we had experts from **Madras Dyslexia Association** conducting a week-long training for our teachers. The sessions were enriching and empowering.

Mr Suryakumar, founder of Ladder Educational Services and expert in Mathematics and Science has come forward to offer coaching for Competitive Examinations in the school campus (IJSO, JEE, NEET, NTSE and KVPY). He addressed parents of grades 8 to 10 and we look forward to our children tapping into this opportunity.

Under the direction of the Primary Health Centre, we organised a vaccination drive for students of grades 7 and 8 and those in grades 9 and above who had missed the earlier dates.