

## Founder's Note

Dear Community,

I loved Language Day for three reasons. First, becoming comfortable with who you are and where you came from is probably the definition of growing up. This does not mean being closed; it means that being part of a global community is not having to give up who you are. Two of the most interesting poets of Hindu and Urdu in the last few decades – Harivansh Rai Bachchan and Firag Gorakhpuri – were both professors of English Literature ;)

Second, it was obvious that kids, parents and teachers had an easy relationship with their own language, clothes, culture; and while this event was conceived to change mindsets around mother tongue or languages, there was spontaneous combustion that represented wonderful collaboration between parents and teachers – everybody brought their best effort into a purpose they care about. Finally, our diverse student, parent and teacher base means that it was an event that could only happen at a school called Neev in a country like India. We have hesitated to do this because other schools don't or people might feel queasy but finally recognized the wisdom of Tagore's "Ekala Cholo Re" (Call but if nobody answers walk alone).

Two important themes were– identity and collaboration.

Identity – does language create relationships and community that's not possible any other way? Do social structures come in only with language? "Language defines your culture, your culture becomes your identity and, your identity is who you are in this world" a grade 4 mother said to me; while a grade 2 mom asked me "whats the need for regional identities with a national one?" Do language, identity, culture limit people or set them free?

My favorite author, Yuval Noah Harari, in a recent article challenged the premise of Mark Zuckerberg's claim - that Facebook forms a global community bound by common values - raising the question of what values bring together that global community which can click many 'likes' but not be able to bring over a cup of masala chai (replacing Harari's soup here) when we're sick. Our communities are around us, always growing, bound by shared values & beliefs. And that's what came alive on Language Day. The strong roots that nourish tall trees to reach out to the world from a secure base.

Collaboration – parents and teachers came together and showed teamwork, responsibility, respect, cooperation, perspective and created something so powerful that none of us could have by ourselves.

The effect of everyone coming together had an impact on our children that we have never seen before. How can we sustain that? What got created that day, needs to be nourished, protected and grown.

In journeys, this term we travelled with our Grade 5 to Delhi & Agra. In the performing arts, we had 2 classical dance lec-dems 3&4 (Odissi) and MYP (Kathakali). In sports, we started the move from medals to personal best. In academics, we launched a tiered reading programme throughout the school, MYP just finished exams and is readying for the science fair, Eureka; our first 2 section grade is ready to move into MYP; a third ICSE grade 6 section is ready to start next year. In DP prep, we had our first parent session for career counselling and our final inspection visit got done - and we hope to hear back soon. In the teaching world, our first interschool SAIBSA conference put us on the southern IB schools map with 200 attendees, from 17 schools and 11 workshops, bringing together for us a goal of creating Learner agency, moving up from creating respect/ownership. In the summer, we initiate our first sports camp for our team A and B athletes, and we launch our [neevbooks.org](http://neevbooks.org) website to bring together readers to share a love of books.

I wish all of you a wonderful summer. Come back with your minds on fire!

**Kavita Gupta Sabharwal, Managing Trustee & Head of School**

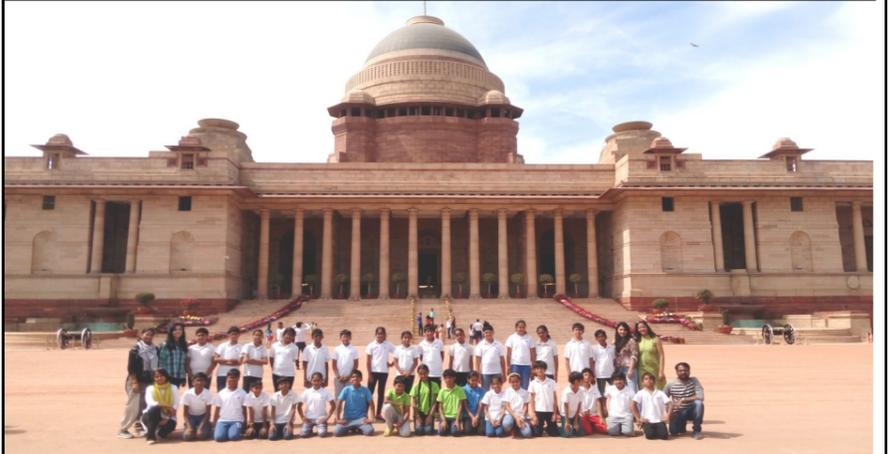


MYP Library– A makeover!

Reading for Reading programme in action!

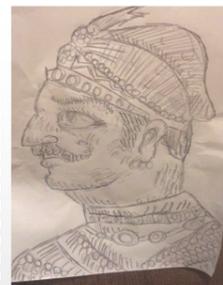
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**Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi**

The students of Grade 5 took a trip to Delhi and Agra in February to understand the history of governance and administration in our country over hundreds of years, beginning from the rule of the Mamluks to the Mughals, then to the British and finally evolving into the democracy we see today. We explored the ruins of old forts and cities, admired the grandeur of Mughal architecture and appreciated the elegance of



#### A Verse from History

Long ago in the battle of Tarrain,  
many people died,  
so people were afraid to fight,  
but there was one brave knight,  
who never wanted to hide;  
that brave knight was Prithviraj Chauhan.

Long long ago in the city of Delhi,  
When rulers always had fire in their bellies,  
Came Prithviraj Chauhan,  
who dared to raise his sword against Muhammad Ghor's Jaan!  
He thought simply and did not realize he had just spared the bully!  
As he refused to hide,  
he was easily destroyed,  
his life was with tragedy filled,  
and so he could never feel the happiness of a king!  
**Sunav Bajaj and Aryan Varma, Grade 5 B**

Lutyens and Bakers New Delhi.

Besides the sights, there are several other moments that make travelling together with children heartening. The times when you see an otherwise anxious child calmly grab a friend's hand while crossing the road, or another kindly folding a friend's clothes and putting them away, and some reminding their friends to brush their teeth before bed while one giving a spontaneous hug to the teacher because for that moment, they suddenly missed home. These incidents prove that life skills are best learned out of one's comfort zone. As Josh Gates beautifully put it in the, 'Memoirs of a Monster Hunter': "Travel does not

exist without home....If we never return to the place we started; we would just be wandering, lost. Home is a reflecting surface, a place to measure our growth and enrich us after being infused with the outside world."

And so, we returned home to do just that.

**Nidhi Shah, Class Teacher, Grade 5 team**

## Campus Buzz

### MYP Library– Makeover!

The secondary building library is now the new hub of learning. Take a stroll into the magnificent sanctum of reading and you will know why! Other than housing its usual array of books, the library now sports corners with attractive reading provocations. The history corner displays major events along its periodical timeline coupled with books on historical fiction. The English and drama department have created the 'Literature in Performance' corner with books that have been filmed or staged. Besides that, these corners have questions on display for readers to investigate and hence, read discerningly. What makes a good story? Can a story be told by visuals alone? It is a delightful sight of young children sinking into their beanbags and getting absorbed into books they hadn't considered reading before. To further this drive, we have launched a website with reading suggestion across grades. Refer to the link– <https://neevbooks.org/>

### Learn to Read –Read to Learn

#### Reading Programme-

We have launched the school-wide reading programme. This is an ambitious programme with a simple structure and is meant to compliment the library lesson. While in the library lesson students seek out their readings, in the reading programme, the readings come to the students. This programme is built on the idea that one needs to read widely across subjects in order to become a competent reader.

To accomplish this, students read a brief text, do a response task and then start on the next reading. We believe that the productive skills of speaking and writing are dependent on the receptive skills of listening and reading, and with rich exposure, we will start to witness more profound discussions and debates around the school.

### Eureka

The word, Eureka, etymologically, means 'I find'. We, at Neev Academy, have tried to create a culture of curiosity for apparently the most common human occurrences, which, if delved into deeply, could result in understanding a previously incomprehensible problem or concept. "Eureka" is an honest, earnest attempt to tap into the reservoirs of human curiosity. Going by the adage that nothing is small or trivial in science, the exhibition is striving to inspire deep inquiry into matter, energy and their relationship, thereby exploring the extraordinary science underlying everyday occurrences. Going by the enthusiasm and zest with which students are participating and setting up their displays, it is evident that the initiative has taken off quite well. With this event marking the end of the term, we are hopeful that the spirit will linger on.



**Work in Progress for Eureka!**

# Wordsmiths

## Snowflakes

The wind carries them to places we have never seen,  
It carries them to cliffs and forests that are blushing green,  
Some high, some low, some with creatures that are horribly mean,  
It carries them through many adventures,  
to regions where humans dare not venture.  
They come in the winter and some melt in the day,  
And become the retreat where children like to play.

**Rithwik Kabir Shivnani, Raghav Chowdri, Pratyush Balaji , Grade 5B**

## The School Book Fair

We had a book fair on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of March. It was a joyous event. The purpose of the book fair was to introduce us to the different authors and books that were displayed and give us a chance to buy some we liked. It was also held to help us build our reading skills and communication skills and make us more knowledgeable. During the book fair, I was very excited to look at and select books for myself, but I was also nervous. I had to pay the money myself and get back correct change. I felt more responsible and also reflected on my Math concepts to calculate the change. I was first worried about not having carried enough money. My mother had trusted me to independently pick up the books and bring the change. As I picked up my bag of books, I felt really confident and responsible for being able to handle the selection and buying of books all by myself.

**Shivikaa Gupta—Grade 2A**

We are currently in the unit **‘Where we are in place and time’** and it’s all about learning about our personal identity.

**Who am I?**

**The story behind my name.**

**Vayun**

When I was born, I used to keep on moving everywhere just like the wind. So my mother decided that my name should be Vayun, which means ‘wind’. When I heard this story, I was amused to know how I used to be as an infant. I am a very enthusiastic and active child.

**Vivaan**

‘Vivaan’ comes from a Sanskrit word meaning, ‘the first ray of the sun’. It is also another name for Lord Krishna. It also means, ‘full of life’. My father chose this name even before I was born but my mother wanted to name me ‘Kabir’ after the famous Indian poet. So I have two names. My name is ‘Vivaan Kabir Thakur’

**Mirava**

My brother was born first and he was named ‘Neel’ which means ‘Krishna’. So, when I was born, my parents named me, ‘Mirava’ coming from ‘Meera’ who is known to be a devotee of Lord Krishna. As expected, I am very close to him and love him a lot.

**Dhruv**

One night my parents were walking under the night sky. Then my mom and dad saw the ‘North Star’ and I was named after it as I am very special like a star and they say I shine for them.

**Grade 1A**

**‘Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counsellors, and the most patient of teachers.’ - Charles William Eliot**

‘Wonder’ and ‘Number the Stars’ are two books that I got to read as part of my novel study in school that prove this quote to me.

Wonder, the story of a boy born with facial deformities, talks about how he is bullied because of the way he looks. The boy has no one to trust other than his parents and sister. The pain the boy goes through, opened my eyes towards the impact of bullying. Before reading this book, even I would say, "Oh, look!!" when I saw someone with any deformity or looking different from what we call "normal" but now I know that we must not judge people based on their appearance.

On the other hand, ‘Number the Stars’ instantly made me visualise the plight of refugees during the world war. I was able to understand the situation of the Syrian refugees today, who also like the Jews, migrated in boats with very basic needs. When they too, reach their destination country they face many difficulties.

The novels showed me how to connect the story to real life. Both show suffering and are well written to capture the imagination of the reader. They are now my favourites.

**Aryaman Bansal, Grade 5A**

## Landforms of India

The plains have diverse people and who are always so busy,

While the Himalayas are not so cozy.

The deserts are filled with sand,

While a plateau is a high piece of land.

The coasts are near the sea,

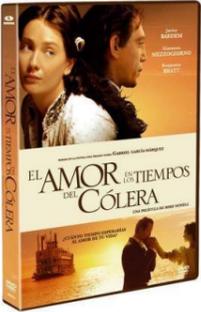
While the ghats are not snowy.

The islands have deep sea diving,

I wish I could get there by driving.

**Vedant Divakarla, Grade 2 B**

## El amor en los Tiempos del Cólera



Era una película romántica, de historia de amor. Trato de romance entre dos personas, un hombre que se llama Florentino y una mujer que se llama Fermina. Florentino y Fermina son de clases sociales diferentes. Florentino es de una familia clase media y Fermina es de una familia rica. Ellos se enamoran, pero, Fermina se casa una chico que se llama Dr. Urbino, de una familia rica. Florentino se hace triste pero él queda muy romántico.

Después de muchos años Dr. Urbino muere y Florentino va a funeral. Aquí, el encuentre Fermina después de cincuenta años, nueve meses y cuatro días. Florentino expresa su amor a Fermina otravez más.

**English Translation:**

The movie *Love in the Time of Cholera* is a romantic movie. It is about two people, a boy named Florentino, from a middle-class family who falls in love with a girl named Fermina, from a rich family. Fermina, however, gets married to a rich man named Dr. Urbino. After many years, Dr. Urbino dies, and Florentino goes to the funeral and expresses his love for Fermina all over again.

The movie is based on a Spanish novel “El Amor en los Tiempos de Colera”, by the world famous author Gabriel Garcia Marquez. He is the only person from Colombia to have won a Nobel Prize for literature.

Normally, I don’t like romantic movies because they are tedious and unrelatable, but I enjoyed this one because it was very touching.

**Ved Kaura, Grade 7**

## Structures

Structures are strong and stable  
Tall and short, big and small  
Rule the skies like the sky scrapers  
Up and down they glow and shine  
Come and see the height...  
They can be constructed based on time  
Unless you have a vision, purpose and are  
Ready with your design  
Efficient structures cannot be built, unless they are  
Strong, stable and steady

**Arin V Jagtap, Grade 2A**

## Friedo, the Beagle

Friedo is my dog, but I treat him as my little brother. The day he was brought home, he was only a month old and I felt bad as he had left his mom. Today, he is a year old and I love him even more than I did last year. As he is so special to me, I thought I should share my feelings about him through this poem:

Naughty he is,  
He will dirty your car.  
If there is food,  
He will run,  
No matter how far.  
With big eyes and ears,  
He looks so cute,  
He might loot your cookie jar.  
He jumps up and down,  
To make himself look like a cookie clown.

**Adrita Ganguly, Grade 3A**

## Nature

The wind on the trees,  
A breeze over the sea,  
All of this pleases me.  
Friends! Listen to me,  
Just let our Nature grow freely  
Remember, humans,  
While nature is our life,  
If we don’t care, it can be our demise  
Do not mistake Nature for a caricature  
it trusts us,  
So people, don’t betray Nature’s trust,  
For Nature is much more powerful  
than us.

**Ananya Choudhari, Grade 4A**



This portrait is a surrealistic artwork. Surrealism is an art form that is an irrational juxtaposition of 2 or more images. In this artwork I have drawn a sketch of a girl, and in the head region I have pictured a library where a girl is standing on a ladder and picking books. I have juxtaposed two different images in this artwork- firstly the portrait of the girl and secondly the girl choosing books from a library. The reason I chose to do this artwork is because I love drawing portraits and I wanted to try out surrealism; so I combined them together and created this artwork.

**Yuvika Goel, Grade 6**

## Field Trip to Shivanhalli



Shivanhalli (a haven for diverse flora and fauna) is the story of the transformation of over 100 acres of scrubland into an evergreen forest. It was created by the Ramakrishna mission that planted over 1000 trees. The mission plans to extend this forest cover to 200 acres.

Grade 4 went on a field trip to this man made forest and learnt the possibility recreate lost forests, about conservation and about plant and animal adaptation.

We learned that illegal stone mining and poaching happens there. Towards the end of the trek we rested under a banyan tree and we learned that under a tree it is around 5-6 degrees colder.

We also saw a praying mantis. It looked like a stick. A few of my friends were doubtful if it was alive but when it moved, it scared them.

It was a lovely trip with friends and teachers. After this trip, I am hopeful that if we try, we can stop global warming and increase green cover on the earth. Small hands make a big difference.

**Aditya Braganza, Grade 4B**

## It’s all about Sopranos, Altos, Tenor and Bass!

Our school choir, the ‘Joy of Music’ is a group that loves music. Our first performance was at Neevotsav followed by one on Sarvajeet Diwas where we sang, ‘Fly’, a song sung by Avril Lavigne for the Special Olympics, and our third performance was at the Saibsa JobAlike conference. For the latter, we composed our own welcome song for the audience. The warm-up sessions in our practice classes helped us improve our voice clarity. Ms. Nikita led the choir group into the beautiful world of music. We used social skills to coordinate as a group and sing in harmony and blend our voices. We regularly stayed back after school to practice for these shows. We were reflective and learned from our mistakes and made goals for ourselves to make everyone proud. We hope you will be there for our next performance where we will be singing, ‘When you Believe’ and ‘How Far I’ll Go’ by Moana. The choir has helped us build our inner musical strength and find our way into the beautiful musical world.

**Kaira Gupta and Srinidhi Sriram, Grade 4A**

## SAIBSA PYP– JOB ALIKE ( 4th March 2017)



SAIBSA PYP– Job Alike hosted by Neev Academy saw a conglomeration of teachers and workshop leaders from IB schools in Bangalore & other states. Sharing of educational practices and devising ways of escalating teaching standards were among the few things that were addressed.

# Wordsmiths

## Nature's Masterpiece: The South Dakota Badlands

244,300 acres of sedimentary layers forming unique figures, the South Dakota badlands are a true work of art.

The badlands have been formed over millions of years ago. They were mainly formed and changed due to the process of sedimentation. They have been formed by the deposition and creation of new layers by volcanic eruptions, floodplains, and even through fossils forming paleosol. Over millions of years, these layers have been 'cemented' together.

The badlands undergo spectacular transformations because of soil erosions. Erosion happens not only through flowing water, but also through flash floods, which cut downwards into the sedimented material, loosening particles and grains of rock and forming deep gullies and canyons.

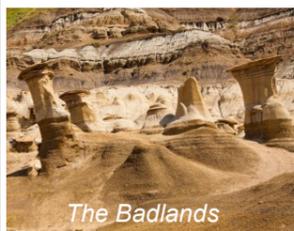
While these factors change the badlands, the composition of the soft clay also has an effect on the rate of erosion. The clay soaks up the precipitation like a sponge and over time dries, forms cracks, and starts to crumble, leaving loose rubble which washes away immediately

and gets eroded faster. If the clay absorbs water faster and dries fast, erosion happens faster.

The climate of the badlands is still shaping this marvelous land-form. It is very unpredictable. Sudden weather changes are very common in this area. The summers are hot and dry with occa-

sional violent thunderstorms. The winters are cold with approximately 12 - 24 inches of snow. The temperature extremes go from -40°F to 116°F, a remarkable range. Annually, there is around 16 inches of rainfall. All these put together, there is no denying that nature never fails to astonish us with its splendor.

Aarushi Mutreja, FB



The Badlands



Hoodoos in the Badlands

## The Model United Nations

WIMUN or WFUNA International Model United Nations is a prestigious and rare workshop for minds which are yearning to know more about the United Nations. WIMUN is held in 2 locations around the globe- New York and Agra. Schools from all over India can choose to go for this workshop and meet veterans of the United Nations, including the assistant director.

The grade-7 and foundation batch have the opportunity of participating in the WIMUN workshop. To prepare for the workshop they have been staying back on Thursdays after school.

In one of our sessions, we were divided into groups and given a text to read. Each group had a summarizer (summarizes the text), a definer (defines unusual terms), a connector (gives 2 or more connections to the real world), an evaluator (gives the positives and negatives of the text) and the interpreter (interprets the text through various ways).

On another occasion, we listened to a group presentation on chairing a conference. The delegates learnt that the chair has the final decision-making power and that the current chairperson of the UN is Ban Ki Moon. The chair has 2 substantial roles - facilitating negotiation and taking responsibility of the UN. We also learnt about the responsibilities of the vice-chair. Each delegate needs to have a detailed idea on how the UN functions; a detailed idea on their allotted country, knowledge of politics, history, geography and economics.

In line with this learning, we were made to conduct research on specific countries which included politics, leadership, allies, global relationships of that country with the world, socio-economic capabilities and limitations, past actions on committee topics, speeches, reports, documents and the national and international voting records. This was a tough job at hand but a great learning nonetheless.

We have also had the opportunity of having a Skype call with the under secretary general of WIMUN, Ms. Katherine Bonner. This gave us much knowledge of the WIMUN and also a different view of how the United Nations works. I am truly looking forward to the sea of experiences at the WIMUN workshop.

Maithreya Karthik, Grade-7

## Lasting Inspiration

"No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite." This was said by the man who stopped the apartheid system in South Africa, who fought and struggled against racism for the freedom of his people. This man was none other than Nelson Mandela. When South Africa was in deep trouble and its people had lost hope, he united everyone and helped them move forward. He gave hope to people when they felt like outcasts in their own country.

When the whites took over South Africa, they made the citizens slaves in their own country; they were made to work for them and forcefully follow unjust policies. In the trains, there would be a luxurious 'white only' compartment where none of the Africans could sit, but this great man put a stop to all of that.

Between the years 1957 and 1959, many Africans walked 48 kilometres a day. This was known as the bus boycotts. In 1956, the government announced that the women would have to carry passes everywhere they went. After this, The Federation of South African Women organised a large demonstration and presented a petition to the Prime Minister. Mandela's exemplary support to the people of his country in the darkest of times shows that he was a true leader.

He had said, "Do not judge me by my success, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again." Would we ever be able to do what he did? Nelson Mandela has lived up to the old adage that one man can make a difference. And so can we.

Aaliya Samad, FB



**Ms. Dipti Warman Waddehra, Unit head-Retention and Donor Development Greenpeace India**

**On her special role in the not - for - profit organization**

**What is the main goal of Greenpeace India?**

Greenpeace India campaigns to protect India's forests for clean air and water, promote renewable energy especially solar power, prevent the dangerous impacts of climate

change and nuclear power, work on safe food and ecological farming and protect freedom of speech. We also provide tools and resources for people to plan their own campaigns on issues they care about.

**What is your role in this organisation? What are you raising funds for?**

I manage the retention teams of the fund raising department, which takes care of various aspects of donor experience and journey within Greenpeace.

**What are some of the challenges you face every day?**

Like any other work environment, the issues and challenges are not any different- they range from managing people related issues to smooth running of process, but one of the most difficult challenges is convincing people that it's in their hand to keep the environment safe and healthy for the future generation.

**What message do you have for our students?**

I love your energy levels and urge you never to let anything change that in you. Be responsible -whether it is in managing your work, interacting with friends or standing up for what is right. Stay happy and blessed ☺

Communicated to the editorial team

## Experiment and Experience



Experimentation is something that is regarded as crucial in art. Masterpieces are created when artists explore different materials and forms in art. When artists experiment, they try different methods and styles of representing their thoughts and ideas. This process helps them become wiser and understand their areas of strengths and weaknesses.

As students we experimented

with different styles of art including realism, post-impressionism, cubism and still-life. After learning about our strengths and skills, we focussed solely on them. The outcome was encouraging.

Experience is also regarded very important in art. When artists experiment, they rely on their previous experience. Only then can they foray into new areas of experimentation. Experience also helps in documentation and preservation of previous art works which are important sources of reference for an artist. This process of referring to and altering previous work helps the artist to establish his/her identity.

As a group and as artists, we usually rely on experience because experience contains fascinating interpretations of different genres of art, styles of art, and helps us in developing our identity as artists. The process of documentation commands discipline but it is crucial not only in self-evaluation but also satisfaction when we marvel at the work we did earlier.

Abinav, Onkar, Maithreya, Grade 7



# Parents' Corner

**Mr. Sumit Gupta, Managing Director, TAB India Pvt. Ltd.**  
On creating companies that are environmentally conscious

**Thank you for speaking with us. Please tell us about TAB India. What does the company do?**

We quarry, process and supply natural stones from all over the world for various projects. In 15 years, we have amassed more than 20 quarries and several processing factories while establishing ourselves as an environmentally conscious company.

**How important is it for businesses like yours to recognize their responsibility towards environmental conservation?**

Very, especially since our business can harm the environment if we are not conscious. However, we have proved that you can work with nature without damaging it. We recycle all our waste and put it to good use. For example, all our factory steel is recycled and we have an on-site water filtration plant for water reuse.

**What is your role in the company and how has your journey been so far?**

I am the co founder and my elder brother is the Managing Director. We are first generation entrepreneurs. We turned something we started from scratch into a finished successful product so it has been a satisfying journey. I got inspired to create this company as I spent my early years in Jaipur which is a natural hub for stones. My father, who was a very principled educator, always wanted us to innovate and make something of our own.

**What keeps you motivated every day? Do have a message for our students?**

In any business, it is a common occurrence for a day to start with a problem and end with one. But, it is important to take calculated risks and resolve these problems by acting on each calmly and cautiously. As long as you continue taking leaps of faith, you will be successful in spite of the failures you may encounter.

Interviewed by- Sunav Bajaj, Devanshi Kaura, Grade 5 B



# CAS Corner



I have learnt many things during my CAS sessions, especially after taking up the job of teaching English to the housekeeping staff of our school, whom we call 'Amma'. Every week, we sit with them to watch their progress and teach them new words in English.

In the process, I have learnt teamwork as an important skill. I have learnt how to listen to others in various situations and also understand them as human beings. I have realised that teaching others is a very difficult task as the people who one works with may respond differently to various teaching methods. I have learnt how to communicate with others when I do not really know the language they talk in. Moreover, I have worked on ways of communicating effectively with people irrespective of such hindrances. This activity has helped me sharpen my communication skills and feel more confident in portraying my thoughts and ideas. In all, I have realized the importance of working towards a better society.

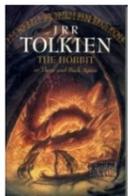
Sannara Anna Steiger, Grade 6



## # Trending

### Classics for Children

#### The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien (12+)



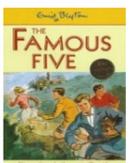
One of the best fantasy novels written by the English author, the book continues to remain popular over the years and has never been out of print since 1937! It is said that Tolkien came up with the first words of the story, 'In a hole in the ground, there lived a hobbit' when he was marking some school papers and found a blank page. It follows the journey of Bilbo Baggins to win treasure that is guarded by Smaug, the Dragon. Tracking Bilbo's personal journey of a home-loving, anxious hobbit to becoming a brave adventurous hero makes it an inspiring and entertaining read.

#### Oliver Twist – Charles Dickens (10+)

It is a story of an orphan who first starts his life at a workhouse and then works as an apprentice with an undertaker. He manages to escape to London, where he meets a member of a juvenile pick pocketing gang led by an elderly criminal, Fagin. In this novel, the author covers themes of child labour, loneliness and friendship among others. It is a moving story and has been well received all through the years even in the form of other media like plays and movies.



#### Famous Five series – Enid Blyton (9+)



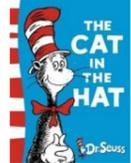
This is a series of adventure stories written by one of the most prolific British writers, Enid Blyton. All the novels feature a group of five children and their dog. Every time they meet (during their summer holidays) they get caught in an adventure involving criminals, secret passageways, lost treasure and the like. The setting is mostly always rural and it's beautiful to imagine the simple joys of the English and Welsh countryside involving picnics, camping, cycling and hiking. Interestingly, it is the biggest-selling series for children ever written!

#### The Little Prince - Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (8+)

Written by the renowned French writer and poet (when his health was failing after the Second World War), is one of the most-translated books in the world and was voted the best book of the 20th century in France. It has been translated into more than 250 languages and dialects (Braille too). The story is a beautiful tale of friendship, love and loss told through the interaction of the narrator who meets a 'young prince' who has fallen to earth after his aircraft crashed onto a desert far away from civilization.



#### The Cat in the Hat – Dr. Seuss (5+)



Written and illustrated by Theodor Geisel under the pen name Dr. Seuss, it was first published in 1957. The story revolves around a rather tall talking cat, with a red and white-striped hat and a red bow tie. It meets Sally and her unnamed brother at their house one rainy day when their mother is away and shows the children a few of his tricks in an attempt to entertain them. In the process, the home is in a complete mess. Does their mother find out? Do they get into trouble? What happens to the untidy house? Read the story to find out!

Compiled by Editorial Team – Internet Archives

### Summer Activities



Summer holidays are here! While we all love the school-free days, it is also a great time to develop some hobbies or learn new ones! Here are some ideas:

#### Aeromodelling

Have you ever dreamed of building and flying your own aircraft? Then this is for you. Aeromodelling workshops around the city help you design, develop and create small air vehicles like gliders, boomerangs and radio controlled aircrafts. It gives you an understanding of some interesting principles of physics and engineering and gives you a chance to apply them in an innovative way.

#### Yoga

We all know the benefits of yoga. It helps us become aware of our breathing, develop stronger muscles, improves our flexibility and makes us fitter. While there are several options for yoga classes in the city, there are also some interesting retreats for children. These are typically 2-3 days long and allow you to immerse yourselves in the midst of nature while also practicing yoga.

#### Cooking

Love watching Masterchef and wish you could whip up something delicious for your family too? Join a baking class for children or learn how to make breakfast and set the table. You can try your dishes at home, so it's fun for you and your family!

#### The Arts

Painting, dance, music are some very popular hobby class ideas for the summer. Pick your area of interest and find the closest one next to you. Learn a new dance form, a new instrument or improve on one you already know or learn how to paint on glass/wood etc. The options are endless!

### मेरी भाषा मेरी पहचान

२५ मार्च २०१७ की सुबह, हर आयु के बच्चों, अभिभावकों, दादा-दादी, नाना-नानी, शिक्षकवर्ग और आगंतुकों से नीव अकादमी का माध्यमिक और प्राथमिक भवन के गलियारे पट गए। भारतीय ग्रामों के मेलों में जिस प्रकार ढोल और नगाड़े की ध्वनि लोगों को अपनी ओर आकर्षित करती है वैसे ही नीव के प्रांगण में ढोल की थाप के साथ ही उद्घोषकों ने भाषा दिवस के आरम्भ की उद्घोषणा कर दी। नीव अकादमी के छात्र कुल १८ बोलियों और उपभाषाओं से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं। गर्व और अभिमान का अनुभव होता है कि उनमें से कुल बारह भाषाओं ने अपनी भाषा का प्रतिनिधित्व किया। मुख्य कार्यक्रम के उद्घोषणा के साथ ही बारी-बारी बारह भाषा मंडपों के प्रतिनिधि (बच्चे, अभिभावक और शिक्षक) अपनी मातृभाषा का गौरव लिए पूरे उत्साह और उमंग के साथ गान, काव्य, नृत्य कला प्रदर्शन द्वारा पूरे वातावरण को गुंजायमान कर रहे थे। मुख्य कार्यक्रम इतना उत्साहवर्धक था कि वहाँ मौजूद हर प्रत्यक्षदर्शी भावविह्वल हो उठा।

इसके पश्चात लोगों ने कन्नड़, तमिल, तेलुगु, मराठी, बंगाली, हिंदी, उर्दू, जर्मन, गुजराती, मारवाड़ी, पंजाबी और मलयालम भाषा मंडपों में जाकर न केवल अपना ज्ञानवर्धन किया बल्कि उसी वातावरण में सराबोर भी हो गए। मंडपों की छटा देखते ही बनती थी। हर मंडप ने अपनी भाषा, संस्कृति और इतिहास से सम्बंधित साहित्य, नामवर लेखकों और कवियों द्वारा लिखित रचनाएँ और पारम्परिक त्योहारों के चित्र इस तरह सजाये थे मानो भाषा साहित्य और संस्कृति का मधुर संगम हो रहा हो। भाषा मंडप के प्रतिनिधि प्रश्नोत्तरी, नाम लेखन, कव्वाली, संगीत, अक्षरों के खेल, प्राचीन और आधुनिक लिपि द्वारा ज्ञान का आदान-प्रदान आने वाले आगंतुकों के साथ कर रहे थे।

भारत के विभिन्न प्रदेशों के स्वादिष्ट और लाजवाब व्यंजनों के आस्वादन के पश्चात भाषा दिवस समाप्त हुआ।

कुछ अपनी मातृभाषा और संस्कृति के अस्तित्व और सम्मान का प्रश्न लिए और कुछ उसके प्रति अपनापन और सकारात्मक सोच लेकर विदा हुए।

डा० बिमल कुमार प्रसाद, भाषा प्रमुख, भाषा विभाग

### Parent speaks on Language Day

In the enquiry question to understand what a language is, a child wrote that *it is the medium in which humans express feelings, emotions and wants*. So true! The Language Day celebration is etched in my memory by word and spirit. The wisdom from Kabir's couplets, subtle emotion of Premchand's play, the Telugu childhood songs and games, the richness and depth of Malayalam and Tamil literature and relevant phrases in Bengali are memorable. The rendition of the Urdu poetry and the impactful Tamil song sung by the parent and teacher community brought goose bumps and left me asking for more.

Language is an archive of knowledge, belief and culture of a community and this came to life with the food, clothes and décor of the stalls. Each of us took immense pride in showcasing the rich heritage and identity of the mother tongue. These small steps by the Neev community to make our children appreciate the importance of a multi-linguistic environment and more importantly, their mother tongue, will instil confidence in them to interact in their native language and accept the intellectual wealth and uniqueness of their identity.

### Shilpa Ganeriwal -Mother of Manogna Reddy, Grade 3

