



March 2023

Sociocultural Perspectives on Education

“Where certainty and facts were once synonymous with ‘being knowledgeable’, now it is attitudes and dispositions that are seen as important prerequisites for effective participation in a diverse and changing world. Ask any group of parents or teachers what attributes children of today will need as adults to live socially responsible and fulfilling lives and answers will be similar. They are likely to include: motivation; a capacity for respect and tolerance; an ability to collaborate with others; an inclination for risk-taking, inquiry and problem solving.”

Hatherly & Richardson, 2007

Dear Parents,

The month of March has been a memorable one for IELC as we celebrated Indus Day in style through a musical play entitled ‘The Secret Birthday Message’. The Centre was abuzz with activity as the entire school worked together in a collaborative effort to bring this dream to life on stage. Students had many holistic development opportunities throughout the preparation and practice process with increased interactions amongst various sections and the entire school, gaining renewed appreciation for the arts. We believe the experience and process has been as valuable and enriching as the end product; in context of the holistic growth of children.

From the littlest ones in the Nursery all the way to Grade 1, each of the IELC students played their roles with so much energy, joy and enthusiasm on stage, making the entire performance truly spectacular. Indus day was a unique combination, showcasing student learning from the Leadership Curriculum based on the theme of Goal Setting, Design Thinking Process and TIKKUN OLAM in young children alongside our annual celebration of the performing arts in a dynamic musical production.

This year as a part of our Indus Day program, 6 Indus Leadership talks (1 Lead Talks) by our young students showcased their learning in various aspects.

Community Action Service took a totally different route by doing so many heart warming projects with orphanages – PiQture me and Fistful of grains projects. Along with that teachers were highly involved by educating Cottolengo students about personal hygiene. We thank you dear parents for helping out and contributing to each project undertaken. We absolutely could not have done it without your support. Other unique aspects of the show included a rendition of an invocation prayer song in Sanskrit by six students aged 4 – 6 along with invocation dance based on Bharatnatyam.

The special addition of Orchestra, which showcased one of our Centres of Excellence; music appreciation and keyboard training. The students played three pieces ‘Hava Nagila’ – Jewish Folk song , ‘Lavender’s Blue Dilly’ and Piece by – Judy Garland’. The entire play was emceed with remarkable clarity by the children themselves as they took the audience through the show. Each of our students featured in the performance in one or more roles from public speaking, to vibrant, energetic dance performances. The stellar performance was a testimony of their effort and dedication. It is rightly said by Paulo Coelho, "Only children believe that they are capable of everything".

Many thanks to the tireless efforts of our teachers who made this entire event such a success.







Indus day pictures and video will be shared with IELC Whitefield families as soon as we get the edited version from the photographer.

Beating the Heat in the IELC Swimming Pool

With the summer heat now being felt in full force, our IELC students are participating in swimming classes with extra zeal and enthusiasm. Thanks to the consistent efforts of our swim coach Ms. Kajal, students have shown tremendous progress over the recent weeks in developing their swimming techniques, specifically 'free style' stroke as they 'beat the heat' and make use of IELC's picturesque swimming pool facilities.



Celebrating Holi

Thinking globally and acting locally also means celebrating the festivals of the host country. IELC – W celebrated a free for all carnival of colors, students were eager to enjoy this festival of colors. We got organic colors keeping in mind the delicate nature of our students skin.





News from the classroom:

Nursery

March has been a spectacular month because we had our Indus Day and our little munchkins gave a stellar performance on stage. After winding down from the success of Indus day the children have settled back into their daily school routine. This month we have started our new UOI-Community Helpers. We celebrated Holi which is the festival of colors and Easter in school. Looking forward to a fun month ahead.



Reception

March was another exciting month for all the Reception children. This month in Language and Math- children have been doing recaps of all the learned letter sounds and numbers up to 13 with their correspondences through play-based activities, PPTs, audio-visual aids, and outdoor fun games.

In UOI children have been introduced to the concept of Water. They have learned about the importance of water, and the uses of water and are learning about the sources of water. The children had a great time doing different experiments with water.

We celebrated a few festivals starting with Holi, the festival of colors, children had a wonderful time spreading love and light with all the beautiful colors, Indus Day was a spectacular event put forward by our supremely talented children who made the show an event to remember. We are extremely proud of our little Eaglets. We also celebrated Ugadi at school, children enjoyed making Pachadi along with their friends and tasting what they made together as a group activity, last but not least Easter celebration at school, children enjoyed activities like the Easter egg hunt and designing their very own Easter eggs as a take away with them for the holidays.

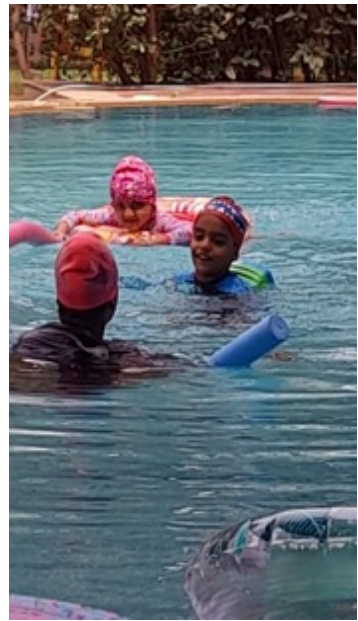




Prep 1

The month of March saw our Prep 1 children displaying their leadership skills and confidence as they participated in Indus Day. Children were very excited and post the event reflected on what they did and how they felt during the event as it was their first live performance on stage.

This month we continued with the unit 'Transport' and children understood the purpose and evolution of transportation. We ended the unit with the children discussing traffic issues and providing solutions to solve the same. Children also created their own futuristic transport to solve traffic and pollution problems. Prep1s also inquired about 'stars' and what stars would feel like, smell like, taste like, sound like and look like. Children built their own theories around stars and shared it with their peers. This month the Prep1s also started their spell quiz and are showing enthusiasm in doing the same. We look forward to many more engaging experiences next month.



Prep 2

Month of March was an eventful one for Prep 2. Students enjoyed celebrating Ugadi and Holi at school. Students gave an amazing performance at Indus Day and Leadership Summit.

Students of Prep 2 spotted a toad on our campus. They got curious about it and when probed further wanted to inquire about the difference between frog and toad. They researched at home about it and made presentations on the same.

Students were encouraged to do personal inquiry on the topics that they are interested to learn about. Students came up with lovely presentations on the topic of their interest like space, life cycle of a butterfly, robots, horses etc.





Grade 1

In the month of March, for the Unit of Inquiry – Community. Students began the unit by completing a mind map activity on what a community is? They also identified different communities and the key community helpers in them. In the finding out stage - they identified the need for the school community. Further they identified the community helpers who belong to the school community. In the Sorting out stage of our inquiry, students were introduced to what needs and wants are. Students identified the importance of needs. They also sorted out in a group activity what they felt was important and essential for them as a need and what were wants. Students shared their observations of their residential community. The helpers that were needed for their community and their roles they play in the community. Further, students were introduced to roles and responsibility of the Family community. Students discussed their family rules which they need to follow too. Students enjoyed listening to various stories on the roles and responsibilities of the Teacher, Fireman, Doctor and Pilot. To conclude the unit, students created a community of their choice (in their groups). In this activity, students

identified the need for the community, the community helpers of their community, their roles & responsibilities for their chosen community. This enabled the students to develop their social and communication skills in their group activity. Students made their presentation (in their Show and Tell class) to Ms Priyanka.

Grade 1's performance on Indus Day was amazing. At such a young age, our students blew us away with their confidence and talent on stage for Indus Day. They not only perfected their skills for keyboard, dance, or speech and drama, but also gained confidence in themselves and learned the values of hard work and consistent practice. We were extremely proud of Grade 1 students.





Important Dates in April

April 1st– Spring Break commences

April 11th – School reopens after Spring break

April 13th- Baisakhi celebration in school

April 20th – Eid Celebration at school

April 21st – Ramazan holiday (Subject to change)

April 24th – Earth Day in school.

Regards,



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