



Best practices are an inherent part of a curriculum that exemplify and inject rigor into the curriculum by developing thinking and problem-solving skills through integration and active learning. Relationships are built through opportunities for communication and teamwork. They motivate, engage and prompt students to learn and achieve. Our best practices for teachers include teaching a balanced curriculum, teaching an integrated curriculum, differentiating instruction to meet individual student needs and providing active learning opportunities

## Developing a Research Oriented Scientific Temperament



Our students took part in IRIS (Initiative for Research and Innovation in Science) INTEL National Fair in Ahmedabad, Gujarat organized in December, 2014. Out of the 10,000 entries received, two of our projects were shortlisted among the best fifty entries.

The projects were:

1. Antimicrobial Activity of Silver Nanoparticles
2. Paspalum scorbiculatum (Kodo Millet) - a potential natural drug for Diabetes

The project Paspalum scorbiculatum (Kodo Millet) was among the recipients of IRIS Grand Awards 2014. The project will now represent **Team India at International Science and Engineering Fair, 2015 at Pittsburgh, US to be held in May, 2015.**

The participants of the projects are active members of the Science Clubs initiated last year. The clubs encourage Research and Experimentation. Their efforts have included finding solutions to problems in real life such as solutions for reducing the incidents of road accidents, preparing natural dyes, testing levels of pesticides in fruits and vegetables, testing levels of nitrogen in snacks, designing a guitar, ... and the effort continues...

The learning outcomes reaped have been;

- Students and staff are keenly observant of how Science impacts our life and our role in utilizing knowledge towards being problem solvers.
- Perspective towards Science widened as a result of the opportunity to interact with scientists at National and International Level.
- Observation, Analytical and Critical thought processes, presentation skills are sharpened.

## Unfolding Magic of Mathematics



To unravel the Joy of learning Mathematics, and dispel the fear related to the subject, an array of events were organized for parents, students and staff. Learning Mathematics through Origami, 'Techniques of Quick Calculations through Vedic Maths', various number tricks, quick calculations, fun with Geometry, Mathematical puzzles such as Tangram, solving the Rubik's Cube were used to encourage students to explore the subject and befriend it.

The exchange programme with 'The Choice School', Kochi, was based on the theme "Mathematics in Everyday Life". Visits organized entwined fun while exploring the Mathematical concepts involved in various monuments as Jantar Mantar, Qutub Minar, Taj Mahal.

The Maths worksheets were re-designed for classes VI to VIII with a focus on Value points essential to enable learning, followed by questions graded from Conceptual to Higher difficulty level

Learning outcomes:

- Encouraged joy of learning Mathematics through closer engagement with the subject.
- Enhance learning through graded worksheets.
- Created deeper understanding of the role of Mathematics in Architecture, Music, Sports, Astronomy, Genetics, besides being useful in our transactions in our daily life

## Creating a Cyber Safe World



We live in a cyber-society. To teach our students the importance of cyber safety, computer faculty has constituted Cyber Congress. The members of cyber congress make presentations in the school assembly to create awareness regarding safety precautions while using the internet. Cyber congress plays a proactive role in taking up and resolving the issues of cyber bullying in the school. A session on "Cyber Safety" was also organized for classes VI to XII.

The learning outcomes were

- Understanding of the safety concerns in the cyber world
- Sensitizing peers regarding safe use of the internet

## Inspiration—The invisible Ink



### Inspire ...and they shall find their way . .

Besides the Aptitude Tests, Career –Counselling Sessions, Interactions with professionals, we ventured into providing students a chance to be in real working environments through an Internship Programme.

The students worked as ‘Interns’ interacting and understanding the demands of working in organisations as hospitality, legal, fashion industry, Chartered Accountancy firms, Research Labs.

The Learning Outcomes through the process have been:

- Knowledge of the current Career trends in industry.
- Awareness among parents and students about non- traditional Career options.
- Opportunity to understand personality essentials to blend in a working environment – beyond books.

## Collaborative Learning



**1) Seven students from our school visited Japan** in October 2014 under the JENESYS (Japan East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youth) programme. This programme promotes potential interests towards Japan among the young generation to facilitate global understanding of Japanese values and culture.

**2) Under the JENESYS Sports Exchange Programme** Sakshi Sharma from class XI and Mr Dharam Singh were selected as a team member and a team supervisor respectively by the Japan Embassy. Friendly matches of Volleyball and Ice hockey with the Japanese students were conducted during the visit.

**3) A delegation of 13 students and 4 teachers** from Seymour Girls College, Adelaide, Australia visited our school in January, 2015. The objectives of the Exchange Programme were community service, understanding the education systems and spreading the message of “Nine Is Mine”. These programmes;

- Provided students an opportunity to deepen appreciation and acceptance of diversities.
- Facilitated sharing of ideas and fostered deeper ties.

## Celebrating Childhood



The **Pre Primary** students presented activities during the 'Little Gems Meet' in February, 2015 incorporating the skills they learn in classrooms. The little ones along with their friends from various schools in Gurgaon, performed dances and role enactment on themes like Mythology, Festivals, and Environment, etc. It extended their learning through various games to enhance different areas of development in early years. The Little Gems Meet was an experience in discovering magical moments of shared learning.

The presentation of the **CBSE-i** students was the transformation of the scholastic and co-scholastic learning in the classes, in the form of a Carnival in December, 2014. The performance included plays showcasing the significance of healthy eating, yoga in daily routine, the importance of music and dance in life and the benefits of enjoying life through learning. The students conducted games and activities for parents based on their learning in the classes.

To commemorate diverse cultures and traditions of India, the students of the Primary Wing celebrated 'Festive Fervour' a tribute to India's diversity in February, 2015. The event showcased 20 dance forms of the states of India emphasizing the tradition and language of each state. Every student of the primary section participated in the programme. The students of CBSE-i also participated in an instrumental presentation, singing of the school song and the welcome song. The events

- Helped in discovering and promoting the latent talent of students.
- Provided a platform for exhibiting multiple intelligence of students.
- Helped in building confidence.

## Education World School Ranking-2014



As per Education World Rankings Survey, 2014, the scores of Salwan Public School, Gurgaon have improved over last years' in areas of **Academic Reputation, Co-Curricular Education, Sports Education, Competence of Faculty, Parental Involvement**. The difference in score with the top ranking school in the area of Leadership Management quality has reduced.

## Magnificent Moments



Salwan Montessori School, Gurgaon has been ranked number nine on Education World Top Pre-schools ratings in the first attempt. It is a proud moment for the Salwan Fraternity as the work done in the field of Early Childhood Education has been recognized and appreciated.

The school was ranked third in the area of **'Competence of Teachers'** and fifth in **'Parental Involvement, Innovative Teaching, Safety and Hygiene'**. In the category of **'Leadership Qualities'** the school was positioned at number 4 in the 2014 survey.

## Nurturing Childhood: Achieving Sustainable Practices



**Navtika National Conference 2014** was organized on 21 & 22 November 2014 to provide professional learning opportunities to early childhood educators who work with the children in a variety of settings. The conference was addressed by eminent educationists from the field of early childhood. The Panel discussion on 'Nurturing Childhood for Achieving Sustainable Practices' laid emphasis on the four pillars of Early Childhood Education which reaffirmed the teaching methodologies. The esteemed speakers shared their views on the impact of providing a stimulating environment in different invigorating sessions.

The two day conference brought the researchers and the practitioners on a common platform to strive together for achieving sustainable future in the field of Early Childhood Education.

## Innovative Practices: Project Based Learning



Children are naturally inquisitive and soak up information through hands on experiences. A systematic Project Based Learning (PBL) has been introduced in which children are allowed to study a topic which interests them, in depth, over a period of time like little scientists. The Project approach offers multiple ways to participate and demonstrate their potential and also accommodates different kinds of intelligences. A few steps are followed for successfully implementing PBL at SMS, Gurgaon. Appropriate topics are chosen meticulously for overall development of children. Children do research on the topic in detail with their mentors and their parents. Various intriguing activities or stories based on the theme help enhance their learning. The outcome is then documented and the teaching learning process is analyzed. The children of each class made a presentation on their research for their parents on Academic Day.