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Cherries

The Official Newsletter of Billabong High International School - Kelambakkam
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CHERRIES - EDITION 247



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EDITORIAL BOARD



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Content Editor

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#1

Veterinary Voyages: Caring for Our Animal Friends

Ms. Sarala B, Nursery Educator



This month, our nursery children embarked on a delightful journey exploring farm and pet animals and the essential role of veterinarians in their care. Through a variety of engaging activities, the kids learned about different animals and the importance of veterinary services.

The children actively participated in role-playing exercises as veterinarians. They practiced diagnosing, treating, and caring for various animals, which provided them with a fun, hands-on experience. These activities not only entertained the children but also fostered an understanding of the compassion and skills necessary in veterinary care.





#2

BILLABONG HIGH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, KELAMBAKKAM



Mr. James Raja Singh, Physical Educator



RUNNER-UP IN INTERSCHOOL TOURNAMENT – VIT CHENNAI & WINNER IN BUCK MEMORIAL SPORTS FESTIVAL – YMCA CHENNAI

We are thrilled to announce that **Andrea V** of **Grade X** has recently achieved remarkable success in two prestigious badminton tournaments.

Andrea participated in the **Smt. Rajeswari Viswanathan Amma Birth Anniversary Inter-School District Level Badminton Tournament**, organized by the **Vellore Institute of Technology, Chennai**. We are proud to share that Andrea secured the **Runner-Up** position in the Girls Under-17 category.

Just a week later, Andrea competed in the **Buck Memorial Sports Festival**, organized by the **YMCA College of Physical Education**. In the Under-15 category, she emerged as the **Winner** in badminton singles.

Andrea's dedication, hard work, and the unwavering support from her parents have truly paid off. Her outstanding achievements reflect the values of perseverance and excellence that we strive to instill in our students.

We are confident that Andrea's success will inspire her to continue pursuing excellence in all her future endeavors, both in sports and academics. We are immensely proud to have her as part of our school and eagerly anticipate many more accomplishments in her future.





#3

TEACHER'S TRAINING PROGRAM: EMPOWERED – DEVELOPING EFFICACIOUS EDUCATORS



Held on July 18th, 19th, and 20th at Billabong High International School, Kelambakkam



We are pleased to present **EmpowerEd** - Developing Efficacious Educators, a specialized professional development program conducted by **Ms. Zohra**, our Academic Operations Manager. This three-day training, held from July 18th to 20th, was designed to enhance our teachers' skills and strategies for effective curriculum implementation.

The program aimed to equip our educators with innovative techniques and best practices to achieve the best possible outcomes for our students. Through interactive sessions and hands-on workshops, participants gained valuable insights and practical tools to refine their teaching methods and improve classroom dynamics.

We believe that this professional development initiative will significantly contribute to the overall effectiveness of our educational practices and support our teachers in delivering an enriched learning experience for our students.





#4

Building Connections: A Joyful Self-Introduction Activity for Kindergarten

Ms. Devi S & Ms. Shahana, Senior KG Educators



As part of our Language and Literacy Club initiative, a delightful self-introduction activity was organized for our senior kindergarten students. The purpose of this activity was to foster a sense of community and belonging within the classroom.

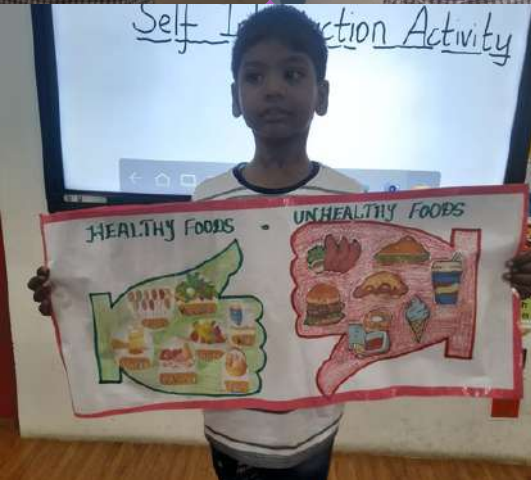
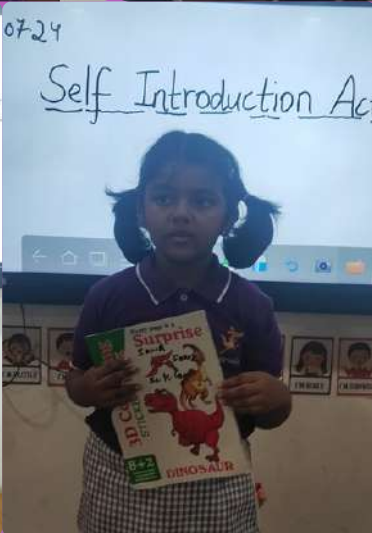
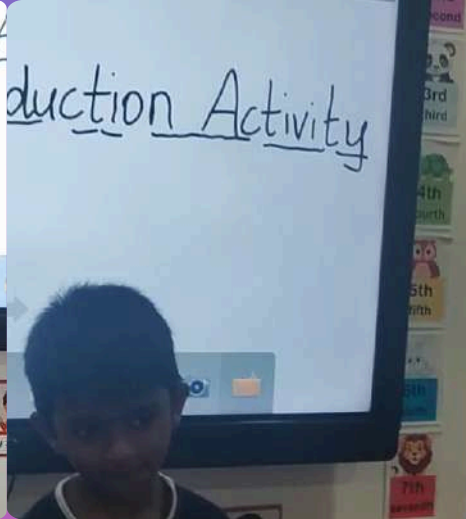
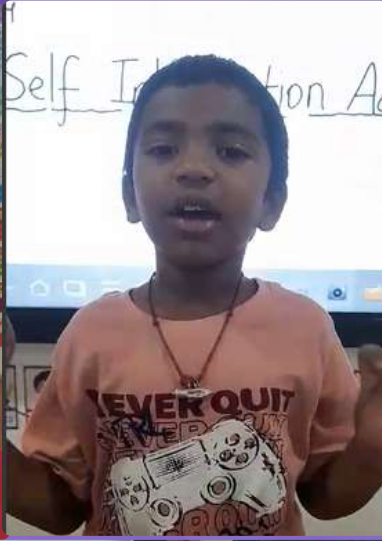
The session kicked off with a cheerful welcome song that set a positive and lively tone. This was followed by an engaging puppet demonstration, designed to make the introduction process both fun and interactive. Each child had the chance to take the spotlight, sharing their name, favorite color, and a preferred activity.

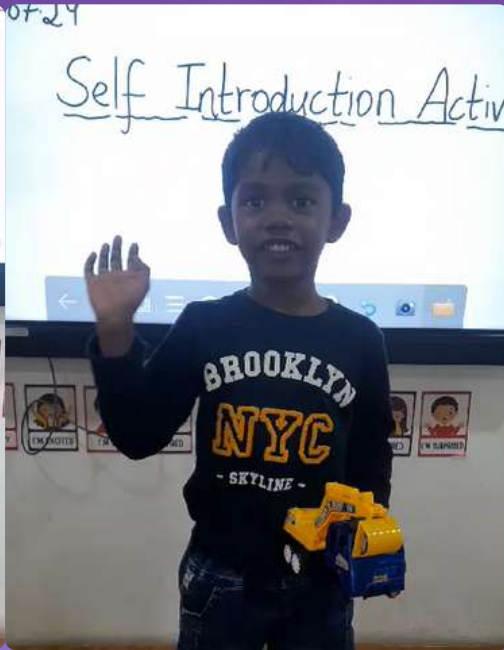
To boost their confidence, students received positive reinforcement and applause from their classmates. This supportive environment not only made the experience enjoyable but also helped the children feel more comfortable and included.



The self-introduction activity was instrumental in developing the children’s speaking and listening skills while strengthening their connections with peers in a fun and nurturing setting.









#5

EXPLORING THE TINY WORLD OF ONION CELLS

Educator – Ms. Saradha Gopi

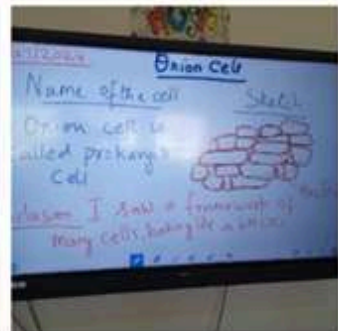


Have you ever wondered what's inside an onion? Today, our young explorers delved into the microscopic world of onion cells using a microscope!

The children observed the tiny cells, which appeared as small, box-like structures under the lens. These cells are the fundamental building blocks of the onion, working together like tiny houses to help the onion grow.

Through this hands-on activity, the learners discovered that onions are composed of these minute cells and that microscopes enable us to see details too small for the naked eye. They also learned that science surrounds us in everyday life, even in the food we eat. Science is both fun and fascinating! We encourage our students to continue exploring and discovering the wonders of the world around them.





#6

SPA Art and Craft Session

Ms. Sivaranjani S, SPA In-Charge – Art and Craft



In our recent SPA art and craft session, we explored the creative world of paper folding, which is an excellent method for enhancing fine motor skills and fostering creativity. Our focus on origami introduced the children to various folding techniques, making the learning process both engaging and educational. The highlight of the session was the hangman craft, which provided the children with a hands-on experience to see the direct results of their efforts and imagination. This activity not only allowed the kids to develop their crafting skills but also encouraged them to think creatively and problem-solve. It was a rewarding and exciting experience for everyone involved!



LIFE SKILLS ACTIVITY: EXPLORING ABILITIES, GOALS, AND CREATIVE THINKING

Ms. Sneha (Club Head & Math Educator)



On July 26, 2024, middle school students enthusiastically participated in a vibrant Life Skills activity during their Value Education period. The activity aimed to help students from Grades 5 to 8 explore various essential skills such as self-awareness, goal setting, and creative thinking. This initiative not only encouraged students to reflect on their abilities and aspirations but also fostered teamwork and innovative problem-solving skills.

Grade 5 & 6: Abilities/Self-Awareness

The activity for Grades 5 and 6 focused on self-awareness, encouraging students to identify and nurture their unique skills and talents. Each student received a printout with a series of questions designed to help them reflect on their strengths and areas for improvement. The questions included:

- What are my top three skills?
- How can I use my skills to help others?
- What new skills would I like to develop?

Students eagerly filled out their printouts, sharing their responses with their peers. This exercise not only helped students recognize their own abilities but also allowed them to appreciate the diverse talents within their class. Teachers guided the discussion, providing insights and encouragement, ensuring each student felt valued and understood.

Grade 7: Set Your Goal

For Grade 7 students, the activity centered on goal setting. In pairs, students were invited to come forward and speak about their goals, discussing ways to achieve them. The exercise aimed to build confidence in public speaking and emphasize the importance of planning and perseverance in achieving one's aspirations.

Students shared a wide range of goals, from academic achievements to personal growth ambitions. Each pair discussed specific steps they could take to reach their goals, such as setting short-term targets, seeking mentorship, and maintaining a positive mindset. The session fostered a supportive environment where students felt motivated and inspired by each other's aspirations.

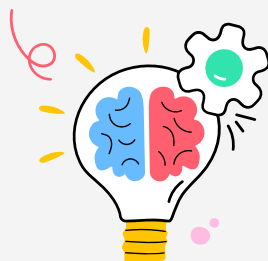
Grade 8: Creative Thinking (Group Discussion)

Grade 8 students engaged in a group discussion focused on creative thinking. A list of questions was displayed on the smart board, prompting students to think critically and creatively about pressing social issues. Some of the questions included:

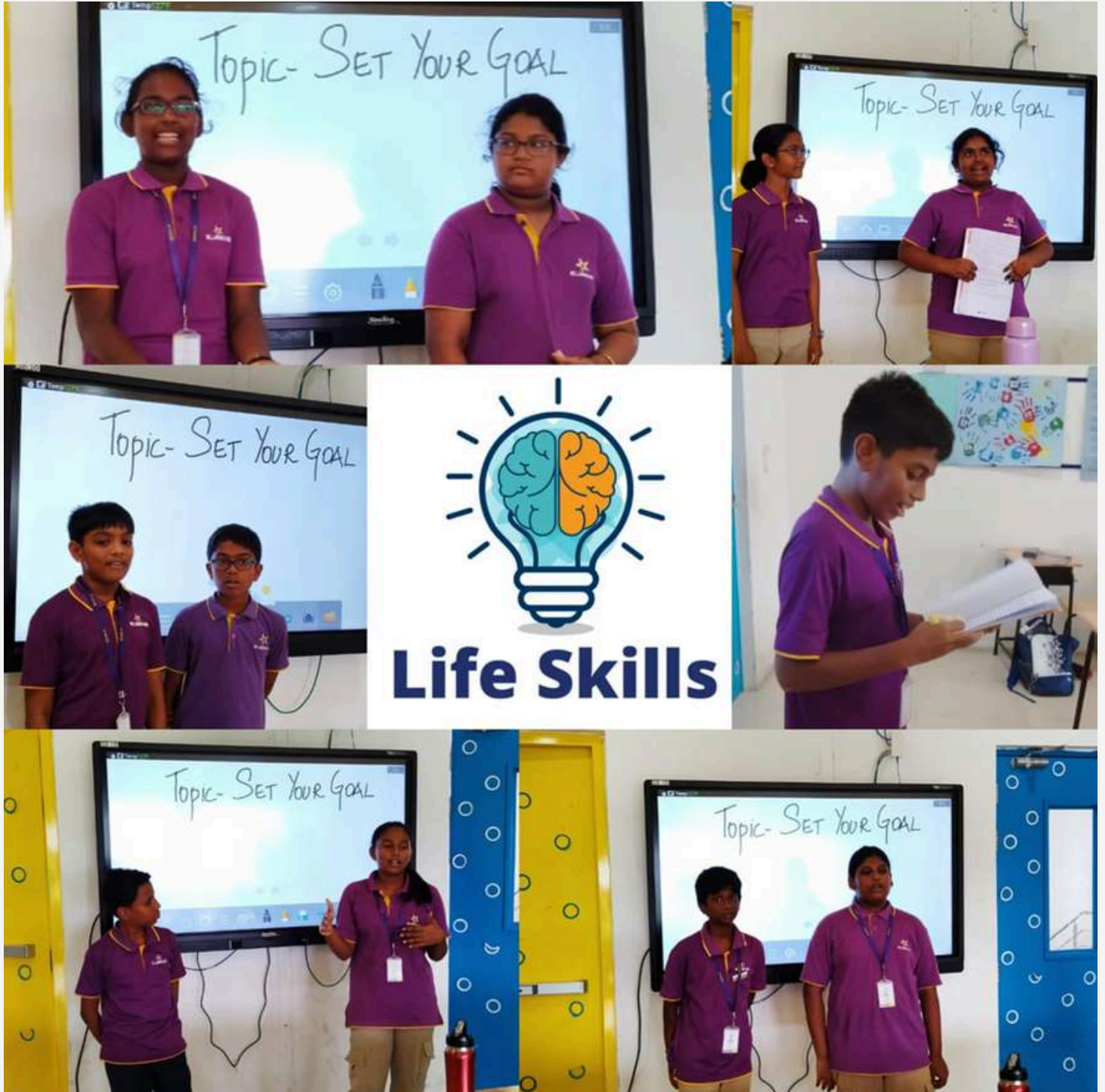
- How can you solve the issue of illiteracy in India?
- What can be done to avoid road rage?
- What can be done to save Earth from global warming?

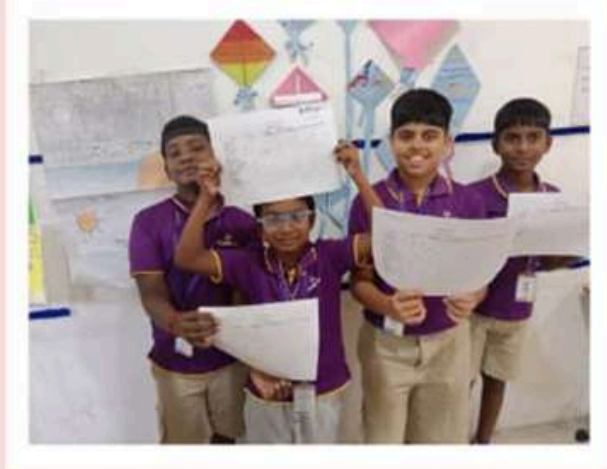
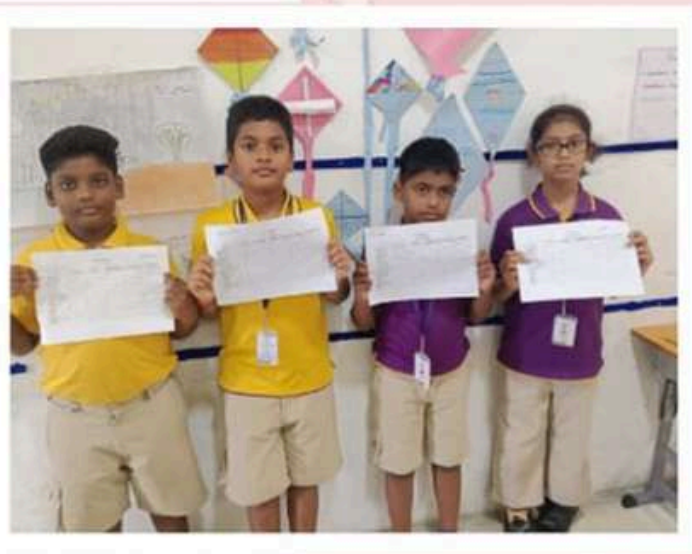
Students formed small groups and brainstormed innovative solutions to these problems. The discussions were dynamic and thought-provoking, with students presenting ideas such as community-based literacy programs, awareness campaigns to promote safe driving, and sustainable practices to combat global warming. The activity encouraged students to think outside the box and collaborate effectively to develop practical solutions.

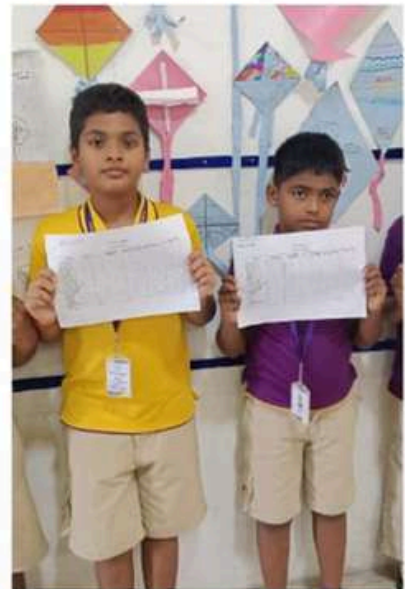
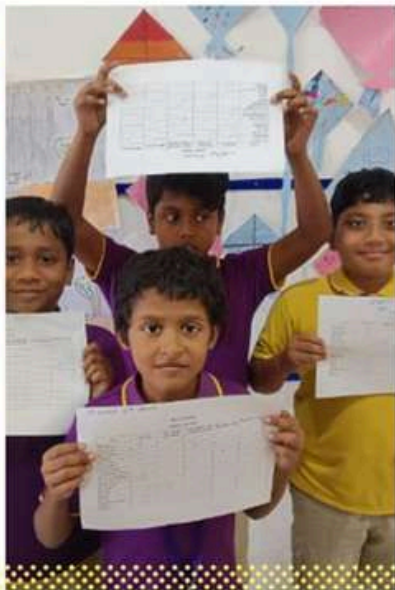
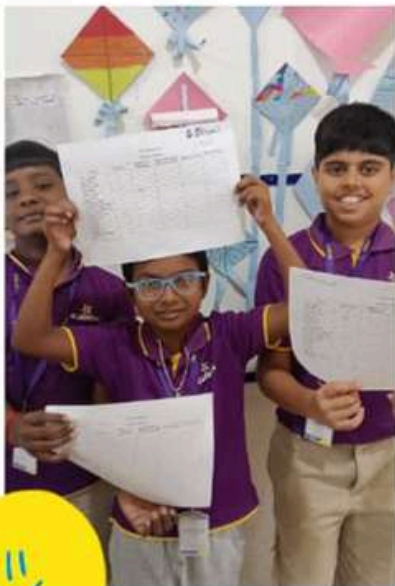
The Life Skills activity was a resounding success, with students actively participating and showcasing their abilities, goals, and creative thinking skills. This initiative not only provided a platform for self-expression and growth but also instilled a sense of responsibility and empathy among students. The insights gained from this activity will undoubtedly help students in their personal and academic journeys, preparing them to face future challenges with confidence and creativity.





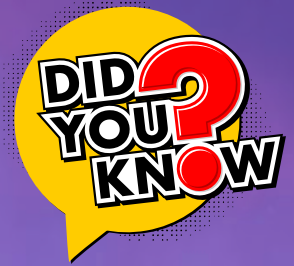








Science Facts



- A cloud weighs around a million tonnes.
- Giraffes are 30 times more likely to get hit by lightning than people.
- Identical twins don't have the same fingerprints.
- The Universe's average colour is called 'Cosmic latte'.
- All the world's bacteria stacked on top of each other would stretch for 10 billion light-years.
- The fear of long words is called Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia.
- Comets smell like rotten eggs.
- Bananas are radioactive.
- Your nails grow faster in hot summer.