

Cherries

The Official Newsletter of Billabong High International
School - Kelambakkam

CBSE Affiliation No.1932700



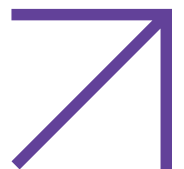
20 April, 2025, Edition 272

Together We Learn Together We Grow!

Celebrating every step
of our learning journey!



CHERRIES - EDITION 272



Highlights of this Edition



Editorial Board

Ms. Shahana Asrar

Content Editor & Graphical Layout Designer



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UPDATES FROM



KINDERGARTEN



**April 15th, a day so bright,
Tiny tots began their flight.
With backpacks small and
dreams so wide,
Nursery's journey began
with pride.**



Capturing the Moment

First Day Palm Print Activity

Ms Deepa M , Nursery Educator



Nursery 25-26

The first day of school is a big milestone—full of excitement, curiosity, and new beginnings. To mark the occasion, children use paint to make a handprint on chart paper, capturing just how small their hands were on that special day.

This fun, sensory-rich activity sparks creativity and brings a sense of pride. It also offers a calming moment amid first-day jitters. These tiny handprints become lasting memories of how far they've come since day one.



Capturing the Moment

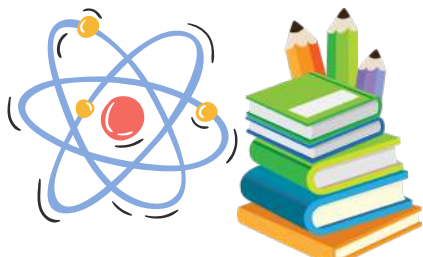
The first day of preschool is the beginning of a joyful journey filled with learning, laughter, and new friendships!



UPDATES FROM JUNIOR SCHOOL

Learning That Comes to Life!

In Math, Science, and English, our students are diving into hands-on activities that spark creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving. From thrilling math challenges to cool science experiments, they're mastering skills while having fun and making real-world connections!



Mathemagical Moments

Exploring the wonders of math through fun, games, and discovery!

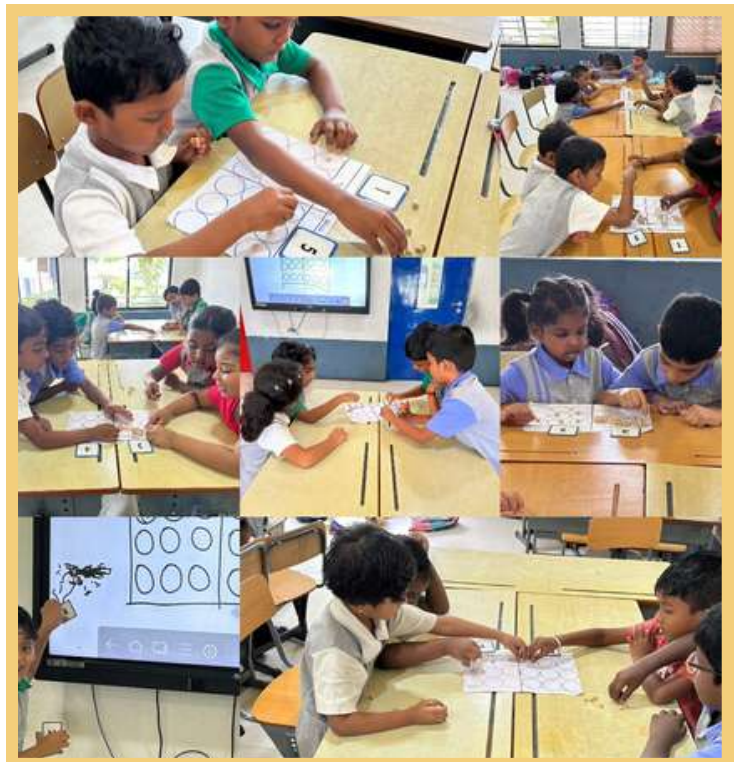


Magic with Chickpeas

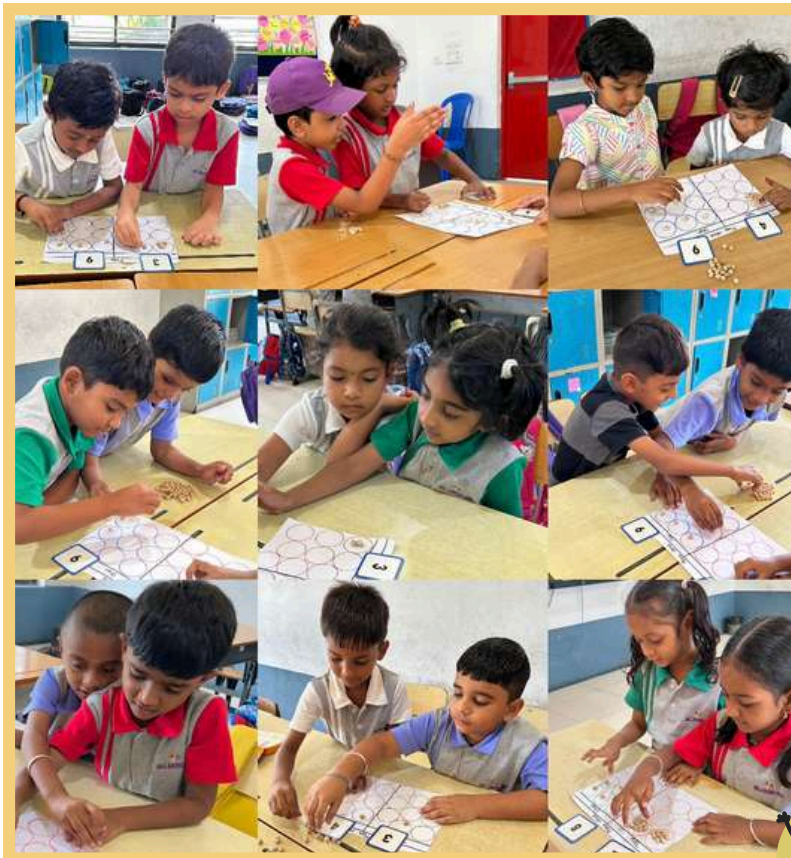
Ms Sarala B , Grade 1 Math Educator

Learning math is always an enjoyable experience for kids, especially when it involves hands-on activities. This time, the children explored the concept of place value using chickpeas as a learning aid. Each child was given a set of chickpeas to represent 'tens' and 'ones'. Working in small groups, they carefully picked and sorted the chickpeas to form numbers. Through this engaging activity, they were able to clearly identify which digits belonged in the tens place and which in the ones place.

What made this activity even more special was the teamwork involved. The children collaborated with their peers, discussed their ideas, and helped one another better understand the concept. This not only deepened their grasp of place value but also fostered strong bonds and enhanced their group coordination.



Mathemagical Moments



**Experiential Learning
through Team work!**



**DID YOU
KNOW?**



A 'ten' is like a superhero group—
10 ones team up to form 1 ten and
become stronger together!"



Zoom Into Numbers: Exploring Thousands and Beyond!

Get ready to zoom into the world of numbers and uncover the secrets of thousands, ten thousands, and more!



The Structure of Large Numbers

Ms. Abinaya, Grade 3 Math Educator

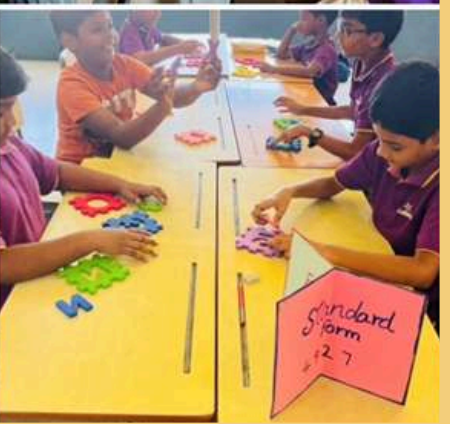
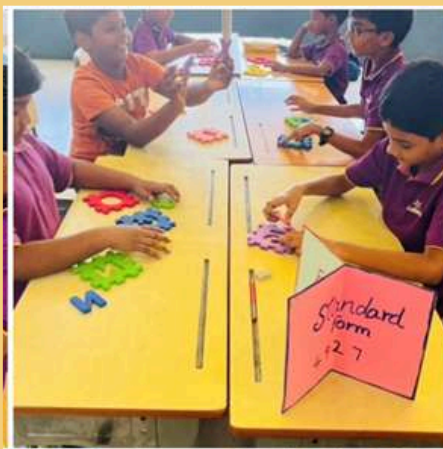
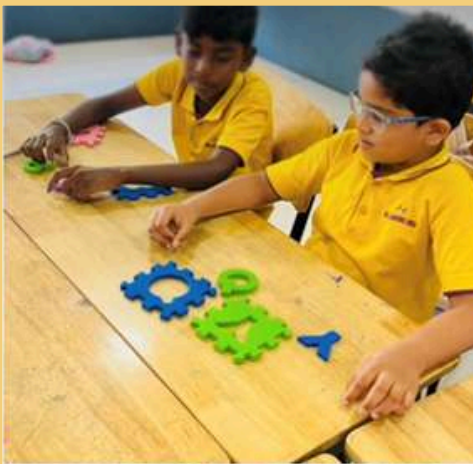
Our young learners successfully explored the concept of composing (putting together) and decomposing (splitting apart) 4-digit numbers using place value puzzles! Through this interactive activity, students worked hands-on with puzzle pieces that represented thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones.

They learned how to build numbers by combining different place values and how to break numbers apart to better understand their structure.

Using puzzles made the learning process both fun and meaningful. Students were engaged, thinking critically, and collaborating with one another while reinforcing their understanding of number composition. This creative approach helped them visualize how each digit in a 4-digit number holds a specific place value, making complex concepts simple and exciting.



Zoom into Numbers!



DID YOU KNOW?



Great for Mental Math!
Knowing how to compose and decompose numbers helps you solve problems faster in your head. It's like giving your brain a superpower!



A Place Value Challenge

Discovery of digits and their positions through a fun interactive game.



Create and Compare Numbers

Ms. Abinaya, Grade 3 Math Educator

In this engaging activity, students used number cards to explore the concept of place value and understand how digits can be rearranged to form different numbers. Each student received a set of number cards (0–9) and was challenged to create the largest or smallest possible 4-digit number using selected digits

For example, using the digits 3, 7, 6, and 1, students could form 7631 (the largest) or 1367 (the smallest). Through this hands-on activity, they discovered that the position of a digit determines its value—for instance, in the number 7631, the digit 7 has a value of 7,000 because it is in the thousands place.

This activity reinforced number sense, logical thinking, and the importance of place value in building and comparing numbers. It was a fun, knowledge-filled experience for all!



A Place Value Challenge!



DID YOU KNOW?

Thousands Place = Most Powerful Digit!
Whatever digit is in the first spot
(thousands place) decides how big the
number really is!



Math Adventure

Students dive into the world of numbers, learning how place value shapes the value of digits in exciting ways!"

1

2

3

Spin into Fun with the Place Value Game! – Grade 4

Ms. Sneha, Grade 4 Math Educator



In a fun and interactive math session, Grade 4 students learned about place values using an online spinner wheel. The game helped them understand 6-digit numbers through a hands-on approach. The spinner displayed place values—Ones, Tens, Hundreds, Thousands, Ten Thousand, and Lakhs for the Indian system, and Ones to Hundred Thousand for the International system. Each time the wheel landed on a place value, students added a digit to their number. The class was divided into groups, each with a creative team name. Students took turns spinning and filling in their numbers, aiming to create the largest 6-digit number. The team with the highest number won, and the smallest number was also recognized. This exciting activity not only sparked students' curiosity but also helped them understand place values in 6-digit numbers, making the learning experience both fun and memorable!

Math Adventure!



RIDDLE

I'm part of a number,
but I'm not alone,
My value changes depending
on where I'm shown.
I'm in ones, tens, and
hundreds too,
What am I? Can you guess
who?



Answer: A digit!

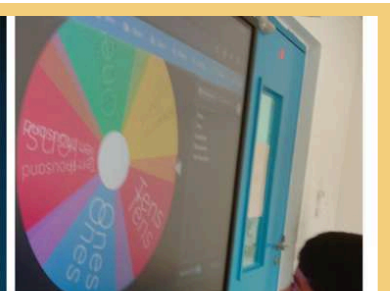
Explanation:

A digit is a single number (0-9) that forms a larger number. Its value changes based on its place. For example, in 543, the digit 5 means 500 because it's in the hundreds place, and 3 means 3 because it's in the ones place.

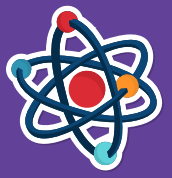
15/04/25 Math Activity

Place Value

3	2	1	0	1
Star Team	Creative Boys	Evil Girls	Fluffy University	CR7
9,62,018	8,37,624	4,78,126	9,76,238	9,87,654



Interactive Science Adventures: Learning Through Exploration!



Students dive into hands-on science experiments, exploring and discovering the world around them through interactive learning!



First Glimpse of the Cellular World

Ms. Sathyapriya & Ms. Bitha , Grade 3 Science Educators

Our Grade 3 Billabongers recently ventured into the intriguing realm of science during their trip to the school lab. Filled with curiosity and enthusiasm, the students had the opportunity to view cells through microscopes—an exciting new experience for many.

Under the guidance of their science teachers, the children studied the fundamental structure of cells. With wide eyes and eager questions, they looked through the microscopes to observe what had previously been confined to textbooks, coming alive before them.



By examining onion cells, the emerging scientists gained hands-on experience that deepened their understanding of living organisms. The session sparked enthusiasm and a sense of exploration. This engaging lab visit was a part of Billabong's practical learning strategy, designed to inspire future inventors and researchers through real-world discovery.

Learning Through Exploration!



A Seed's Magical Journey!

The magical transformation of a tiny seed into a thriving plant through hands-on observation and care.



Watch Me Grow—The Journey of a Seed

Ms Bitha Vinod, Science Educator & Brainy Bunch of Grade 5

Students at Billabong High International School recently participated in a classroom experiment to explore the process of seed germination. As part of their science lessons, they placed seeds in containers and observed the changes over several days, recording the development of roots and shoots.

The activity was designed to help students understand the early stages of a plant's life cycle through hands-on experience. They maintained observation logs, noted daily changes, and discussed the factors that influence germination, such as water, light, and temperature.

The experiment sparked excitement and curiosity among the students. It also encouraged collaboration, responsibility, and critical thinking—highlighting the value of experiential learning in making science both engaging and meaningful.



DID YOU KNOW?

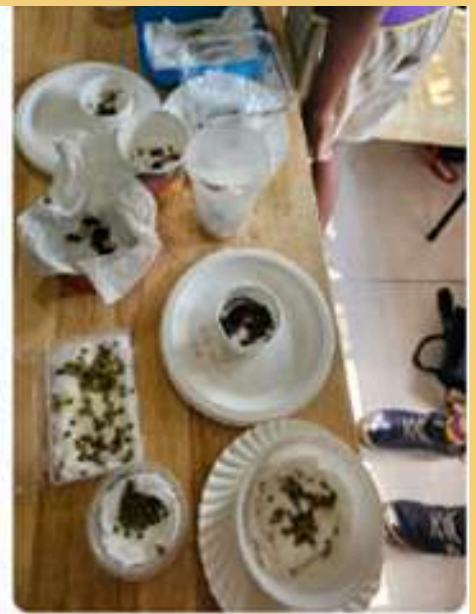


Fun Fact:

Did you know a seed knows exactly when to wake up? It stays asleep until it has just the right mix of water, warmth, and air—then it starts to grow, almost like magic!



A Seed's Magical Journey!



Exploring English: Learning Through Fun and Creativity!

A Creative Journey by Our Students

Exploring Dreams: "The Village of My Imagination"

Ms. Mansi , Grade 3 English Educator

A glimpse of the beautiful and imaginative journey your children recently embarked upon at school. As part of our creative learning initiative, students participated in an engaging activity titled "Village of My Imagination."

Through this activity, students were encouraged to dream, create, and express their ideal version of a village—one shaped not by limitations, but by possibilities. With crayons, words, and boundless imagination, each child crafted a unique village filled with hope, harmony, and happiness.

Some envisioned eco-friendly villages with solar-powered homes and clean rivers; others imagined vibrant communities filled with art, music, and kindness. From treehouses to talking animals, flying bicycles to peaceful coexistence, their ideas were as unique as the children themselves.

This activity not only fostered creativity but also inspired them to think about community life, sustainability, and values such as cooperation, kindness, and respect for nature.

We were truly inspired by their thoughts and visions, and we're proud of the depth and creativity they displayed. Thank you for nurturing these young minds and supporting their journey of learning and imagination.



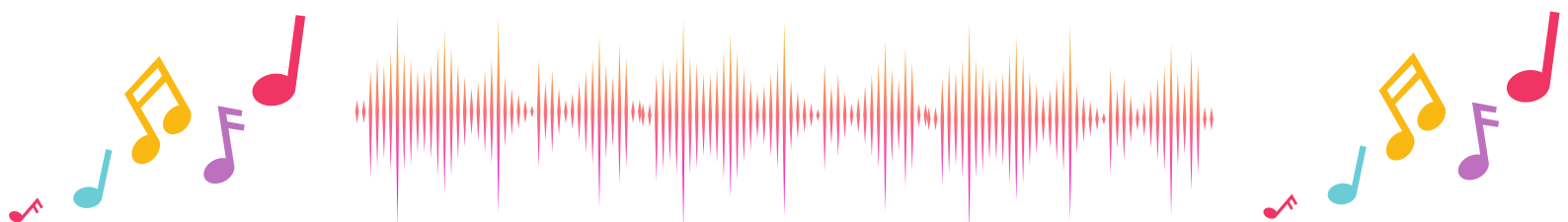
Learning Through Fun and Creativity!



CO-SCHOLASTIC UPDATES

Learning Beyond the Classroom

At our school, co-scholastic learning goes beyond the textbooks. Students engage in fun, interactive, and hands-on activities that foster creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork. These practical experiences not only enrich their learning but also help them develop valuable life skills, making every lesson an exciting adventure!



Making Music Fun: Interactive Learning in the Classroom!

Exploring music through hands-on activities and fun games, building essential skills while enjoying every beat!"



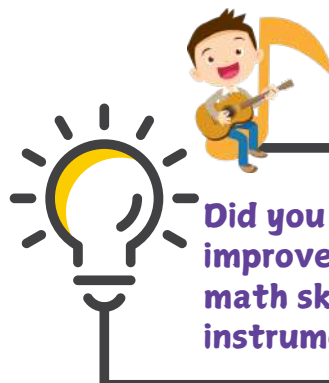
The Importance of Sight Reading in Music

Mr. Wilson B, Music Educator

Sight reading is the most important first step in music. When students become proficient in sight reading, they can easily progress to higher levels.

Sight-reading in music is the ability to play or sing a piece of music directly from sheet music without prior practice or memorization. It's a crucial skill for musicians, as it allows them to quickly interpret musical notation and perform unfamiliar pieces, enhancing their versatility and adaptability in various musical contexts. Sight-reading engages cognitive functions such as memory, attention, and pattern recognition, which can positively affect overall brain development.

Sight-reading is highly valued among professional musicians, as it enables them to quickly adapt to new musical arrangements and performances.



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that learning music can improve memory, concentration, and even math skills? It's not just about playing instruments—music boosts brainpower too!

Empowering Educators

Workshops for Growth and Innovation

We believe in continuous professional development for our educators. To support their growth, we conduct regular workshops and training sessions focused on enhancing teaching strategies, integrating new technologies, and fostering innovation in the classroom. These empowering sessions ensure our teachers stay motivated, well-equipped, and ready to inspire the next generation of learners.



Empowering Educators: A Workshop on Creating a Safer Tomorrow

Ms Anam Agha, Head Mistress Junior School



POCSO Training at BHIS- Kelambakkam

"When schools become sanctuaries of trust and care, children grow not only in knowledge but in confidence and safety."

Billabong High International School, Kelambakkam, recently hosted an important training session focused on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, a landmark law that forms an essential part of our country's legal framework to safeguard children. As students spend a significant portion of their formative years in school—interacting with peers, teachers, and their environment—it becomes both the moral and legal responsibility of educational institutions to ensure their safety and well-being.

The training session, conducted for all faculty and staff members, emphasized the importance of identifying, reporting, and investigating potential signs of child abuse in a sensitive, secure, and lawful manner. The session aimed to equip educators with the knowledge and skills to act responsibly, empathetically, and legally when it comes to protecting the children under their care.

During the session, the key role of the school as a safe space was reemphasized. The importance of being vigilant, approachable, and aware was shared through real-time examples and interactive discussions. As part of the session, the POCSO Committee—comprising school staff, a parent representative, and soon-to-be student council members—was introduced. Details of this committee will be shortly updated on the school website and portal for parent and student access.

The school plans to follow up this initiative with structured awareness programs for students in the coming months, ensuring that children are aware of their rights, safety measures, and how to seek help when needed.

At Billabong High, we believe that education must go hand in hand with emotional and physical security. As the saying goes, "It takes a village to raise a child"—and in our village, safety comes first.

POCSO COMMITTEE

Designation

Name

 **Chairman**


Mr. Yasir Nainar

 **Committee Head**

Ms. Asma Nainar

 **Committee Secretary**

Ms. Anam Agha Yasin

 **School Coordinator**

Ms. Anushree

 **In-Charge**

Ms. Bauviya

 **Member**

Mr. Anil JoseKumar

 **Member**

Mr. James Raja Singh

 **Member**

Mr. Magesh Kumar

 **Parent Representative**

Dr. Shery Angel

 **School Counsellor**

Ms. ArulSelvi

Empowering Educators



Preventive Measures in Schools



Staff Training
Regular training for all school staff

Student Education
Age-appropriate safety programs



Achievements of Nuwan – Grade 12



Ms Anushree Nair , Senior School Coordinator

We are proud to celebrate the remarkable achievements of **Nuwan Gopalakrishnan**, our talented Grade 12 student. His dedication to bioinformatics and artificial intelligence has led to impressive milestones.

Recently, Nuwan attended the prestigious **"Bioinformatics & AI" workshop at IIT Madras on April 5–6, 2025, organized by Techobytes Technologies in collaboration with Mechanica'25, MEA**. This workshop provided valuable insights into computational tools and their applications in biological research, further enhancing his expertise in this innovative field.

Nuwan's academic excellence is also reflected in his research publication in the International Youth Neuroscience Association (IYNA) Journal. His paper, titled **"PRKCZ and CTNNB1 Dysregulation: Linking Brain Tumor to Alzheimer's Disease Pathogenesis,"** explores genetic connections between brain tumors and Alzheimer's, highlighting potential therapeutic targets.

Additionally, Nuwan was recently recognized by the Department of Microbiology at Scott Christian College, Tamil Nadu, for his exceptional mentoring during their microbial bioinformatics and genetics workshop. His contributions earned high praise, demonstrating his growing expertise and ability to inspire others.

We commend Nuwan for his hard work, curiosity, and innovative spirit. His achievements reflect the values we nurture in our students, and we look forward to his continued success in science and technology. Good luck, Nuwan!



Achievements of Nuwan – Grade 12





BILLABONG HIGH

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

KELAMBAKKAM

CBSE AFFILIATION No. 1931190

Growth begins where comfort ends.

Challenge your child to reach new heights.

ADMISSIONS OPEN
or 2025-26

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Admissions Open !

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