

Cherries

The Official Newsletter of Billabong High International
School - Kelambakkam

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BILLABONG HIGH

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

KELAMBAKKAM

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Growing Green Together

**Every Handprint Tells a Story of Care, Hope, and
a Greener Tomorrow**



CHERRIES - EDITION 311



Highlights of this Edition



Editorial Board

Ms. Shahana Asrar

Content Editor & Graphical Layout Designer



Paper Blooms

World Environment Day Special Activity



Fluttering Towards a Greener Future

Celebrating Nature Through Creativity



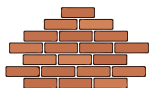
Brew & Bond – Nursery Moments of Growth and Togetherness

Together We Nurture, Together We Grow



Continuous Learning and Professional Development in the KG Team

Enhancing Skills for Better Learning Experiences



Building Excellence Through QBB – Quality Bricks of Billabong

Strengthening Foundations for a Brighter Future



Technology Usage in the Classroom Workshop

Empowering Educators Through Digital Innovation



Hunt, Laugh, Connect!

A Joyful Start to the Academic Year



From Book to Comic Strip: A Creative Adventure

The Magic of Narnia, Hand-Drawn and Heartfelt



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Stepping Stones to Success

Every Small Step Leads to Great Success



Back to School, Back to Nature

The Day Our Campus Bloomed Again



Hall of Fame

Meet Our Young Author

Paper Blooms

World Environment Day Special Activity

Ms. Madeeha A, Junior KG Educator



As a World Environment Day activity, our Junior Kindergarten children participated in a newspaper tear-and-paste craft. The little learners carefully tore pieces of newspaper and pasted them onto a flower template, creating beautiful newspaper flowers.

This hands-on activity helped develop fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and creativity, while also introducing the children to the importance of reusing and recycling materials. The children enjoyed watching the transformation of newspaper pieces into beautiful flowers. They also had fun exploring different textures and creating their own unique flower artwork.



Fluttering Towards a Greener Future



Celebrating Nature Through Creativity

Ms. Sivaranjani S, Senior KG Educator

On World Environment Day, our learners enthusiastically participated in a butterfly colouring activity. Through this creative experience, they explored the beauty of nature and the importance of protecting our environment. Learners learned simple ways to care for the Earth, such as planting trees, saving water, and keeping their surroundings clean.

The activity encouraged creativity while building environmental awareness. The colourful butterflies displayed by the learners symbolized growth, hope, and a greener future. It was a joyful and meaningful learning experience that inspired our young learners to become responsible guardians of nature.



Did you know?



- Butterflies are important pollinators that help plants grow.
- Small actions like saving water and planting trees can make a big difference.
- Teaching children about nature early helps build lifelong environmental responsibility.



Brew & Bond – Nursery Moments of Growth and Togetherness

Together We Nurture, Together We Grow

Ms. Devi S, Nursery Educator

The Brew & Bond session for Nursery parents was successfully conducted, creating a warm and welcoming space for meaningful interaction between parents and educators. The session provided valuable insights into the early learning experiences of our young learners and highlighted the joyful and engaging approach followed in the classroom.

Through interactive discussions and curriculum sharing, parents gained a better understanding of how foundational skills are developed in a fun, simple, and stress-free manner. The session also encouraged open communication, strengthening the partnership between home and school.

A special highlight of the event was the Environment Day activity, where parents and children were given flowering plants and participated in planting them together. This hands-on experience symbolized growth, care, and responsibility while creating joyful bonding moments and lasting memories.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the parents for their enthusiastic participation and support in making the session a success. Your involvement plays a vital role in your child's learning journey.



Did you know?



- **Gardening activities help young children develop responsibility and patience.**
- **Parent involvement boosts a child's confidence and overall development.**
- **Hands-on experiences enhance fine motor skills and environmental awareness.**



Building Bonds, Planting Futures



Continuous Learning and Professional Development in the KG Team

Enhancing Skills for Better Learning Experiences

Ms. Pallavi Patel, Kindergarten Coordinator

At our Kindergarten, continuous learning and self-development remain key goals for every teacher. As educators, it is essential to regularly enhance our skills, stay updated with new teaching methodologies, and refine our classroom practices to provide the best learning experiences for our young learners.

The Phonics Development Session was conducted by Ms. Devi, who shared effective phonics teaching techniques, strategies for sound recognition, blending, and engaging classroom activities that support early literacy development. The session helped teachers gain a deeper understanding of phonics instruction and its practical application in the classroom.

The Concept Delivery and Bulletin Board Display Session was presented by Ms. Sivaranjani. She highlighted innovative methods for introducing and explaining concepts to young learners in a simple, interactive, and meaningful manner. She also demonstrated creative ideas for designing attractive and purposeful bulletin board displays that enhance the classroom environment and support learning.

Both sessions were highly effective, engaging, and informative. The presenters shared practical insights, creative approaches, and valuable resources that enriched the participants' knowledge and teaching practices. The interactive nature of the sessions encouraged active participation, discussion, and collaborative learning among team members.

The KG team looks forward to many more learning opportunities that will further strengthen our professional growth and contribute to the holistic development of our learners.



Did you know?

- **Continuous professional development helps teachers stay updated with modern teaching practices.**
- **Phonics instruction plays a key role in building early reading skills.**
- **A well-designed classroom environment enhances student engagement and learning.**

Empowering Educators



Building Excellence Through QBB – Quality Bricks of Billabong

Strengthening Foundations for a Brighter Future

Ms. Anam Agha Yasin, Junior School Headmistress

As part of the preparations for the Academic Year 2026–27, the school conducted an engaging and insightful workshop on QBB – Quality Bricks of Billabong, a unique initiative aimed at strengthening the foundation of excellence within the institution. The workshop was conducted by the leadership team.

The primary objective of QBB is to provide a clear framework for expectations, accountability, professional growth, and recognition, enabling every member of the teaching fraternity to contribute meaningfully towards the school's vision. As Billabong High International School continues its journey towards greater excellence, QBB serves as a significant step in taking the institution to new heights by aligning individual efforts with collective goals.

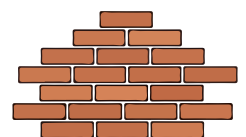
During the session, teachers were introduced to the key performance indicators (KPIs), expectations, and growth opportunities embedded within the QBB framework. The workshop emphasized the importance of every teacher understanding and actively participating in this initiative, as their contribution forms the cornerstone of the school's success. Through QBB, teachers gain clarity on their roles and responsibilities while being empowered to strive for continuous improvement and professional excellence.

A highlight of the workshop was a collaborative activity where each teacher reflected on a personal strength or value they would contribute to the institution during the academic year. These qualities were represented on individual "Quality Bricks," which were then assembled to create a symbolic school structure. The activity beautifully demonstrated that just as a strong building is constructed brick by brick, a successful school is built through the dedication, commitment, and unique strengths of every educator.

The workshop concluded on an inspiring note, reinforcing the belief that when every teacher contributes their best, the entire institution flourishes. QBB is not merely a framework; it is a shared commitment towards growth, excellence, and the collective aspiration of making the Academic Year 2026–27 a truly remarkable one for the Billabong community.



Did you know?



- **Clear frameworks help improve performance and accountability in organisations.**
- **Collaborative activities strengthen teamwork and shared responsibility.**
- **Continuous professional growth leads to better teaching and learning outcomes.**

Technology Usage in the Classroom Workshop

Empowering Educators Through Digital Innovation

Ms. Meenakshi & Ms. Surekha, Primary Educators

Mathematics came alive in our classrooms as students engaged in an exciting blend of STEM learning and creativity. This hands-on experience transformed abstract concepts into something they could see, touch, and proudly create.

Our enthusiastic Grade 1 and 2 learners explored the fascinating world of 2D and 3D shapes using simple materials like clay and straws. With great excitement, they moulded and constructed shapes such as circles, squares, triangles, cubes, and pyramids. As they built each model, they discovered edges, faces, and corners in a fun and meaningful way. This activity not only strengthened their understanding of basic geometry but also enhanced fine motor skills and imaginative thinking.

Meanwhile, students from Grades 3, 4, and 5 explored the world of tangrams, where creativity met logic. Using geometric pieces, they created a variety of beautiful images—from animals and birds to scenic views and human figures. Each creation reflected thoughtful planning, problem-solving, and a strong sense of design. This activity helped develop spatial awareness and critical thinking skills.

This vibrant STEM initiative turned Mathematics into an enjoyable journey of discovery. It was truly inspiring to see students learning with curiosity, confidence, and creativity—proving once again that when learning is fun, it becomes unforgettable.



Did you know?



- Integrating technology in classrooms enhances student engagement and learning outcomes.

- Digital tools help teachers plan lessons more efficiently and track student progress.

- Interactive activities using technology improve participation and understanding.



Hunt, Laugh, Connect!

A Joyful Start to the Academic Year



Ms. Anam Agha Yasin, Junior School Headmistress

As the summer break came to an end, the campus of Billabong High International School slowly came back to life. Classrooms were opened, furniture was rearranged, books found their places on shelves, notebooks were sorted, lesson plans were prepared, and weekly planners began to fill up. The excitement of a new academic year was in the air as teachers busied themselves with creating welcoming and engaging learning spaces for their students.

Amidst the hustle and bustle of preparations, our educators took a refreshing break to participate in a school-wide Photo Scavenger Hunt—a fun-filled team-building activity designed to strengthen bonds, spark creativity, and celebrate collaboration.

Teachers were divided into mixed teams and scattered across the campus with a list of exciting challenges to complete. From recreating famous movie scenes with a school twist to showcasing Chennai spirit, building teamwork towers, and capturing moments of school pride, every corner of the campus echoed with laughter, enthusiasm, and friendly competition.

The activity encouraged teachers from different grades and departments to interact, collaborate, and think creatively together. It was wonderful to see educators stepping out of their usual roles, embracing the challenges with energy and humour, and creating memories before welcoming students back to school.

As teams raced against time to complete their tasks, the excitement grew. Cameras clicked, creative ideas flowed, and every challenge became an opportunity to strengthen connections and celebrate teamwork.

And who emerged as the winner in the end?

While one team may have scored the highest points, the true winners were the smiles, laughter, and camaraderie shared by all. The scavenger hunt reminded us that a strong school community is built not only through planning and preparation but also through moments of joy, connection, and shared experiences.

As we step into the new academic year, we carry forward the same spirit of collaboration, creativity, and togetherness that made this event such a memorable beginning to another exciting year at Billabong High International School.

Building Bonds Through Fun and Teamwork



From Book to Comic Strip: A Creative Adventure

The Magic of Narnia, Hand-Drawn and Heartfelt Ms. Juveria Nahid R, Grade 6 English Educator

One of the most rewarding moments for a teacher is witnessing students transform from readers into creators. During the recent holidays, our Grade 6 students were given a unique challenge—to recreate *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* in the form of a comic strip.

While every submission reflected enthusiasm for the novel, a few stood out for a very special reason. These young learners chose not to rely on ready-made templates or printed comic pages. Instead, they planned, sketched, illustrated, and narrated the story entirely on their own.

From the detailed drawings of the Pevensie children entering Narnia through the wardrobe, to the snowy forests, Mr. Tumnus, Aslan's majestic presence, and the final triumph of good over evil, these comic strips showcased not only artistic talent but also a deep understanding of the text. Every panel reflected careful thought, imagination, and perseverance.

What impressed us most was the authenticity of their work. The students independently decided how to sequence events, design characters, frame scenes, and write dialogues. Through their efforts, they demonstrated important skills that go beyond academics—creativity, critical thinking, storytelling, attention to detail, and commitment to completing a task with originality.

In an age where ready-made resources are available at the click of a button, choosing to create something from scratch is truly commendable. These students remind us that learning becomes meaningful when children are encouraged to think, imagine, and express themselves independently.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to these young artists for their dedication and sincerity. Their work is a wonderful example of how literature can inspire creativity and how homework can become an opportunity for self-expression rather than mere completion.

To all parents and teachers, let us continue to nurture originality, celebrate effort, and encourage children to take pride in creating something that is truly their own. After all, every great creator begins as a curious child with a pencil, an idea, and the courage to bring it to life.

Turning Readers into Creators



Turning Words into Masterpieces

Listening with Focus, Creating with Imagination

Ms. Juveria Nahid R, Grade 6 English Educator

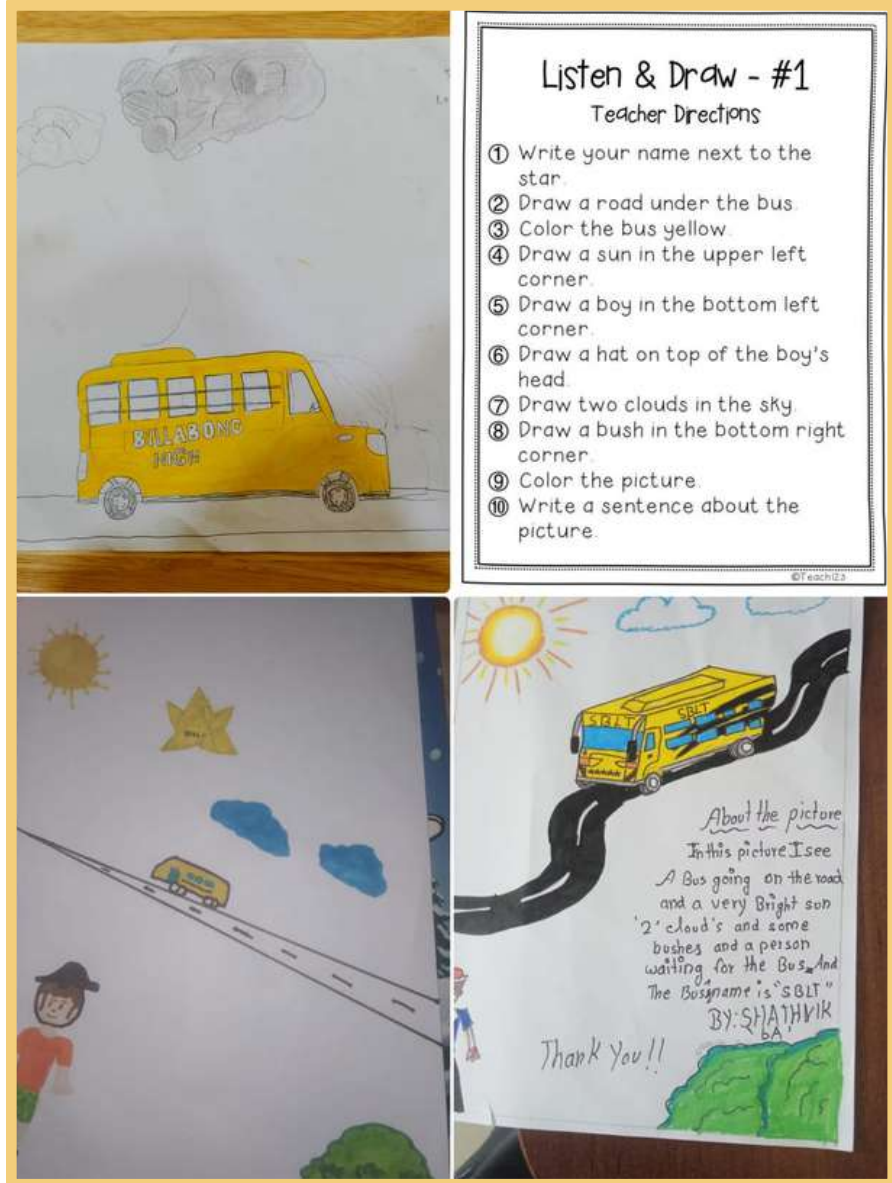
Grade 6A students transformed simple instructions into colourful masterpieces through a fun-filled “Listen and Draw” activity.

The students of Grade 6A participated in an exciting and interactive “Listen and Draw” activity aimed at improving their listening and comprehension skills. The activity required students to carefully listen to a set of instructions and create a picture accordingly.

Students followed directions step by step, such as drawing a road under a bus, colouring the bus yellow, adding a sun, clouds, a boy with a hat, and a bush in specific locations. They also wrote a sentence describing their completed picture. The activity encouraged them to pay close attention, think creatively, and follow instructions accurately.

The classroom was filled with enthusiasm as students eagerly completed their drawings and compared their unique creations. Although everyone received the same instructions, each picture reflected the student's individual style and imagination.

Overall, the activity was both enjoyable and educational, helping students strengthen their listening, concentration, creativity, and language skills in a fun and engaging manner.



Celebrating World Environment Day Through SEEP Activities

Growing Green Minds for a Sustainable Future

Ms.Jenitha V, Primary Educator

On 5th June 2026, our school celebrated World Environment Day with great enthusiasm through the SEEP (Student English Enrichment Program) activities. The objective was to help students reconnect with learning after the summer break while developing environmental awareness through fun, creative, and language-based activities.

The young learners of Grades 1 and 2 participated in the Nature Alphabet Scavenger Hunt. They eagerly explored their surroundings to find natural objects corresponding to different letters of the alphabet. The activity enhanced their phonics, spelling, and nature vocabulary while making learning exciting and interactive.

Students of Grades 3 and 4 showcased their creativity in the Leafy Character Monologue activity. They collected leaves, transformed them into imaginative characters, and wrote descriptive sentences about them. Using adjectives, personification, and proper punctuation, the students brought their leafy creations to life. Their colourful artwork and unique ideas reflected both creativity and language skills.

Grade 5 students took part in the Save Our Planet Slogan Writing Competition. They created thoughtful and impactful slogans promoting environmental conservation. Their messages demonstrated a strong understanding of the importance of protecting nature and inspired everyone to become responsible caretakers of the Earth.

The activities were conducted as friendly competitions during school hours, creating a lively and enjoyable learning environment. Students participated with excitement, energy, and enthusiasm. Their active involvement, creativity, and love for nature made the celebration a memorable success.

World Environment Day served as a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn, create, and reflect on their responsibility towards the environment. The day was filled with joy, meaningful learning, and a renewed commitment to making our planet a greener and healthier place for future generations.

**World
Environment
Day**



Together for a Greener and Healthier Planet



Together for a Greener and Healthier Planet



Did you know?

- 🌿 A single tree can provide enough oxygen for up to four people every day.
- 🐝 Bees help pollinate about one-third of the food we eat!
- 🌳 Trees can communicate with each other through underground networks of fungi, often called the "Wood Wide Web."

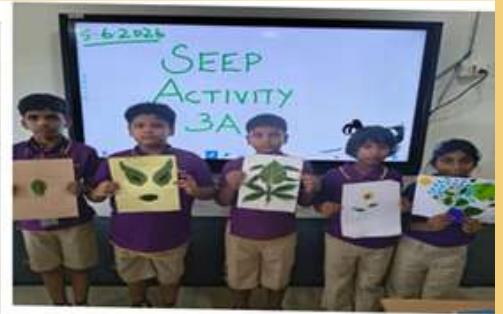
Together for a Greener and Healthier Planet



Together for a Greener and Healthier Planet



Growing Green Minds for a Sustainable Future



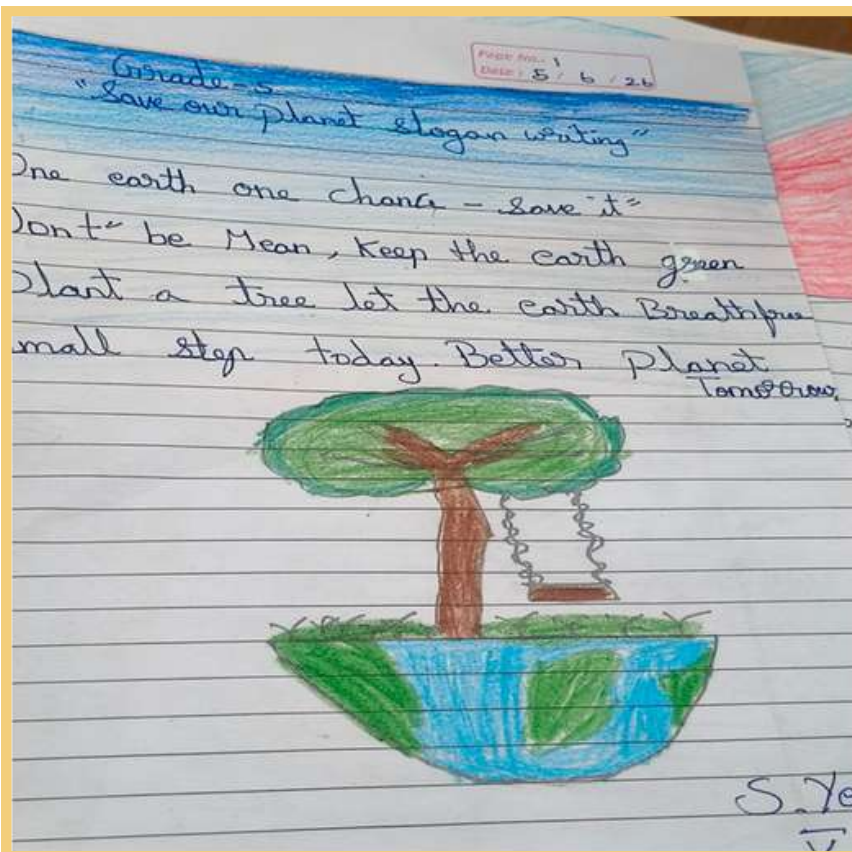
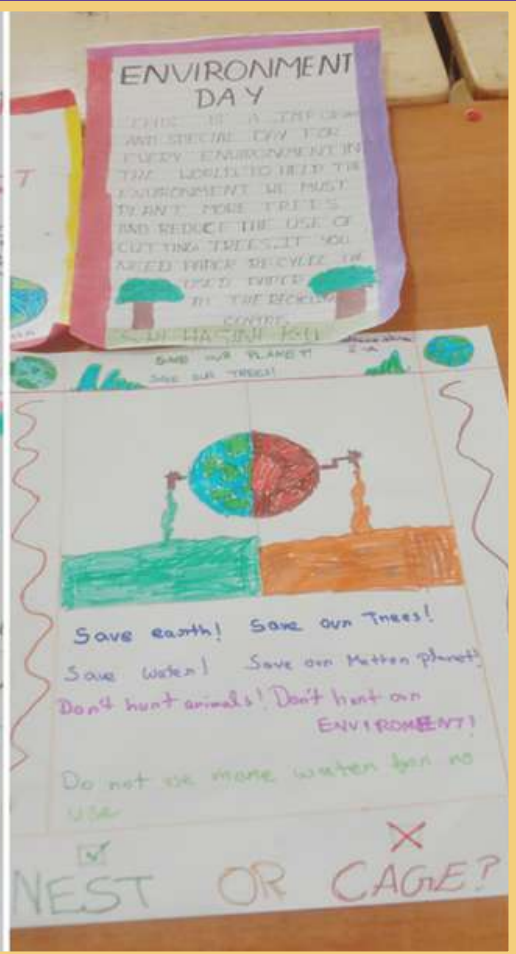
Growing Green Minds for a Sustainable Future



Growing Green Minds for a Sustainable Future



Growing Green Minds for a Sustainable Future



Inspiration from the People's President

Dream, Believe, Achieve

Ms. Jenitha V, Primary Educator



As part of their learning, Grade 4 students explored the life and achievements of A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, fondly known as the "People's President." Through this lesson, students learned about his inspiring journey, remarkable contributions to the nation, and the values that guided his life.

To deepen their understanding, students were given a creative activity. They were asked to draw a portrait of Dr. Abdul Kalam and prepare a chart highlighting five important facts, achievements, or life lessons that inspired them the most. The activity encouraged students to reflect on his dedication, hard work, perseverance, humility, and passion for learning.

The children enthusiastically showcased their artistic talents through beautifully drawn portraits and thoughtfully selected facts. Many students were inspired by Dr. Kalam's journey from a humble background to becoming one of India's most respected scientists and the President of the country.

This activity not only enhanced students' knowledge of a great national leader but also motivated them to dream big, work hard, and contribute positively to society, just as Dr. Abdul Kalam did throughout his life.



Did you know?

- 🚀 Dr. Abdul Kalam was known as the "Missile Man of India" because of his significant contributions to India's missile and space programs.
- 📰 As a child, he sold newspapers to help support his family while continuing his education.
- 🛸 He played a key role in developing India's first satellite launch vehicle, which successfully placed the Rohini satellite into orbit.
- 🏆 Dr. Kalam received India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna, in 1997.

Sharing Holiday Memories – A Joyful Speaking Activity

Every Holiday Has a Story to Tell!

Ms. Jenitha V, Primary Educator



The first day of school was filled with excitement and cheerful conversations as students participated in a special speaking activity to share their holiday experiences. One by one, the children came forward and spoke confidently about how they had spent their vacation.

Students enthusiastically shared stories about the places they visited, the people they met, and the memorable moments they enjoyed. Many spoke about spending quality time with their grandparents, relatives, and friends. Some children had the opportunity to travel to different places and excitedly described their trips and adventures. Others made productive use of their holidays by reading books, listening to stories, learning new things, and engaging in creative activities. It was heartwarming to hear many students talk about the storybooks they had read and the valuable lessons they had learned.



The activity created a positive and welcoming atmosphere in the classroom. Students listened attentively to their friends' experiences and were equally delighted to share their own. More importantly, this activity helped children develop confidence in public speaking, improve their communication skills, and gradually overcome stage fear.

It was a wonderful start to the new academic year, filled with learning, sharing, and joyful memories.

Speaking, Sharing, and Smiling Together



Did you know?

-  Speaking about personal experiences helps children build confidence and improve communication skills.
-  Storytelling is one of the oldest ways people have shared knowledge and memories.
-  Talking about happy memories can help improve mood and strengthen memory.
-  Good listeners often become good speakers because they learn new words and ideas from others.

Stepping Stones to Success

Every Small Step Leads to Great Success

Ms. Bauviya S. Science Educator & Middle School Coordinator

Dear Students,

Welcome to a new academic year filled with opportunities to learn, grow, and achieve. Success is not about being the smartest student in the class; it is built through consistent effort, positive habits, and a willingness to learn every day.

As you begin this year, here are some important stepping stones to guide your learning journey:

1. Build Understanding

- Focus on understanding concepts rather than memorizing answers.
- Ask questions freely—curiosity leads to deeper learning.
- Connect classroom learning with real-life situations.



2. Learn by Doing

- Actively participate in classroom activities and discussions.
- Test your understanding instead of just reading passively.
- Express ideas in your own words to strengthen clarity.



3. Revise to Strengthen Learning

- Revisit lessons regularly instead of waiting for exams.
- Short, frequent revision helps ideas stay longer in memory.
- Treat revision as a tool for confidence, not pressure.



4. Take Care of Your Mind and Body

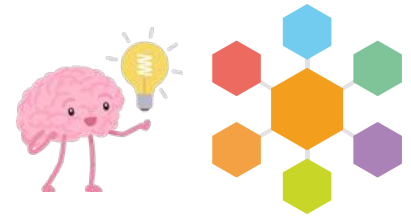
- Ensure sufficient sleep to stay focused and alert.
- Eat nutritious food and stay hydrated.
- A healthy body supports a sharper and more active mind.



Small Habits, Big Dreams, Endless Possibilities

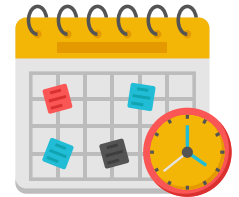
5. Use Smart Learning Strategies

- Create mind maps, diagrams, and short notes.
- Use visuals to organize and simplify concepts.
- Explore different ways of learning that suit you best.



6. Manage Your Time Wisely

- Study in focused, distraction-free sessions.
- Take short breaks to refresh your mind.
- Maintain a balance between academics, hobbies, and rest.



7. Learn Through Sharing

- Explain what you have learned to peers or family members.
- Teaching others helps you discover how well you understand a topic.
- Collaborate and learn from each other.



8. Stay Active and Minimize Distractions

- Engage in sports and physical activities regularly.
- Limit unnecessary screen time.
- Create a focused environment for learning.



9. Develop Self-Belief

- Avoid comparing your journey with others.
- Recognize and appreciate your own progress.
- Understand that every learner grows at a different pace.



A Message for Your Learning Journey

This year is not just about completing the syllabus—it is about developing confidence, curiosity, discipline, and a love for learning. Mistakes are part of the process, and every challenge is an opportunity to grow stronger. Your facilitators (teachers) are here to guide and support you, but your learning becomes meaningful when you take ownership of it. Each small step you take today builds the foundation for your future success. Step into this academic year with curiosity, courage, and commitment. Learn actively, think deeply, and grow continuously.

Wishing you a joyful, meaningful, and successful year of learning ahead!

With best wishes,

Bauviya S.

Science Educator & Middle School Coordinator

Back to School, Back to Nature

The Day Our Campus Bloomed Again

Ms. Sneha – Activities Coordinator



The campus of Billabong High International School came alive on 4th June 2026 as students returned after the summer break. The cheerful voices of children once again filled the corridors, bringing energy and excitement to the school. To make the day even more special, our teachers beautifully transformed the campus with colourful decorations and warm welcome displays.

The reopening was followed by the celebration of World Environment Day on 5th June 2026. A special highlight was "Nature's Voice," a parent involvement initiative in which parents of KG to Grade 2 volunteered to create a beautiful wall painting promoting environmental awareness. The parent volunteers were felicitated as a token of appreciation for their valuable contribution.

The celebration continued with an awareness rally led by the students of Grades 9 and 11. Accompanied by the Chairperson, Principal, teachers, and parents, the students spread the message of environmental conservation and sustainable living. The rally concluded at the Billabong Blooming Corner, our dedicated green space and garden wall, where Middle School students contributed indoor plants, helping make the campus greener and more vibrant.

Another memorable activity was the Handprint Tree, where Principal Asma Ma'am and students left colourful handprints on a painted tree, symbolizing unity, growth, and a shared commitment to protecting the Earth.

The day was filled with creativity, collaboration, and enthusiasm. Students, teachers, and parents actively participated in every activity, making the celebration both meaningful and memorable. It was a wonderful beginning to the new academic year, inspiring everyone to work together towards a greener and brighter future.

Together, we welcomed a new academic year and planted the seeds of environmental responsibility for generations to come.



Did you know?



- 🌱 Plants naturally improve air quality by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen.
- 🌳 A mature tree can absorb up to 22 kilograms of carbon dioxide each year.
- 🎨 Community art projects, such as wall paintings, help spread awareness and inspire positive environmental action.
- 🌍 World Environment Day is celebrated every year on 5th June in more than 150 countries.
- 🏠 Indoor plants can make learning spaces more pleasant and help create a calming environment.

A Fresh Start Rooted in Responsibility



A Fresh Start Rooted in Responsibility



A Fresh Start Rooted in Responsibility



Hall of Fame

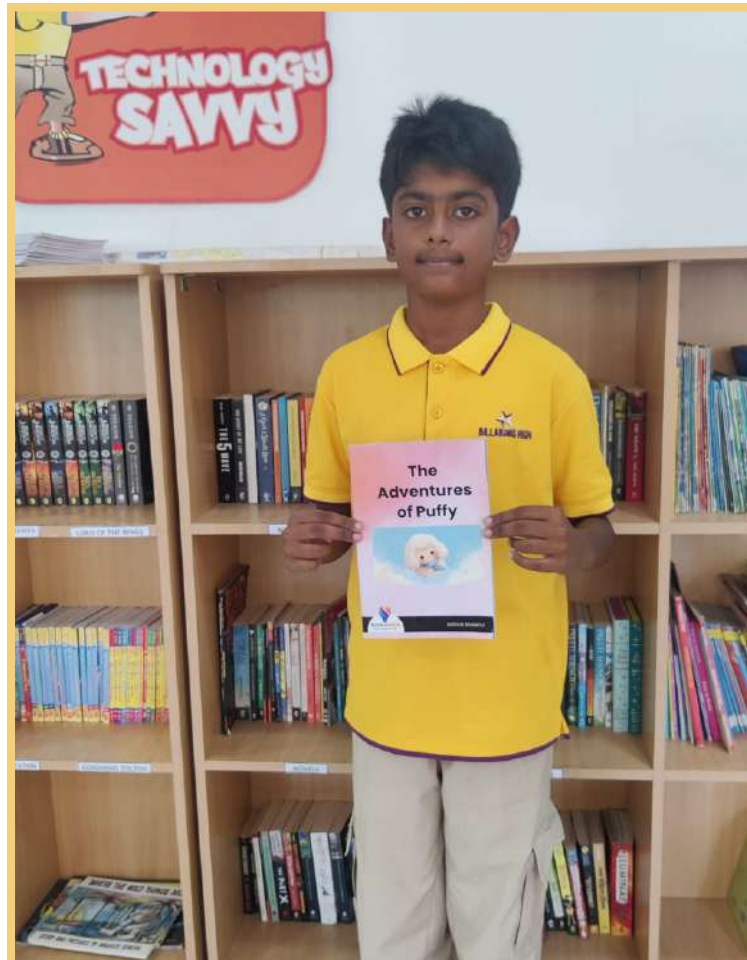
CONGRATULATIONS ON PUBLISHING A BOOK Ms. Kousalya, Library Educator



Krithvik Shaan U., a **Grade 6 student of BHIS-K**, is a voracious reader and a passionate storyteller. He started writing comics at a very early age and enjoys sharing stories with his little sister. His desire to share his imagination with fellow students around the world inspired him to publish this book.

The Management, Staff, and Students extend their heartfelt congratulations to Krithvik Shaan U. on publishing his book, **"The Adventure of Puffy"**, a children's storybook.

Juggling student life while pursuing his passion for writing is no small feat. His creativity, dedication, and perseverance are truly inspiring. This achievement marks just the beginning of what promises to be a remarkable writing journey. Wear the title of "Author" proudly, Krithvik!



★ **THE RIGHT**
SCHOOL CHANGES
EVERYTHING.

Strong **ACADEMICS.**
Confident **LEARNERS.**
Balanced **GROWTH.**



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Admissions Open !

Contact Info

**64/B, CHENGANMAL KAYAR MAIN ROAD, THAIYUR,
KELAMBAKKAM, CHENNAI - 603113, TAMILNADU, INDIA**

Phone : 73393 10666

Email id: info@billabongkelambakkam.com