



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The first academic year of Chaman Bhartiya School is soon coming to an end. Covid made it necessary to open the school as an online school, even though we had reservations with regard to online learning for small children. But we did open online, and I have been positively surprised to see how much we have achieved - not everything we dreamt of as a school, but much more than I expected.

It is important to remember that we are not out of the pandemic yet. The second wave of the pandemic with an increasing number of cases is approaching rapidly. The government has still not decided to open schools for Early Years and grades 1-5. We have, therefore, decided to stay online for the rest of the academic year. Our lessons will stay digital, events will remain digital, and meetings and talks with parents will also be digital. We had allowed some children to come to school, where there have been specific reasons for doing so. However, due to the rising number of covid cases, we will prioritise the safety of our learners and will no longer do that. We take the pandemic very seriously, and we will do what we can to help Bangalore get back to normal again. Any inconvenience caused in this regard is deeply regretted. We strongly hope to open with face-to-face learning when the next academic year starts by July 1.

Since February, the learners have been working on the first PBL (Project Based Learning) project with the theme "Sustainable community". We had earlier planned towards organizing an EXPO in our school premises, where our learners could present their results to parents, stakeholders and the local community. In the current scenario, we are planning a digital EXPO on the 17th of April. The 15 project groups will talk about their project and present their findings. We hope that our parent community will participate in the event. We will send a link through which all stakeholders can access the event website.

I have heard many of the groups giving an elevator pitch about their project. I was impressed by how engaged they were and how much they knew about their topic, considering that they have only collaborated online and only worked on the project for two lessons a week.

Right now, we are working hard to wrap our first academic year: summative assessments, report card writing, Parent Facilitator talks, curriculum review and planning for the next academic year.

In the next academic year, the timetable will cover all subjects and other activities, whether digital or face-to-face. If we open the school physically, we will organize transport, but we will not serve food until the current situation is under control in Bangalore.

From the next academic year, we will introduce grades 6 and 7. The middle years will be more academically rigorous. Our approach towards teaching and learning will continue to be joyful and engaging; while equal importance will be given to the learner's social and emotional development as well.

We are preparing for the authorization process with the ICSE and IB boards. We plan to bifurcate the learners into ICSE and IB classes from grade 8 and onwards. We will have two versions of the We Lead curriculum: We Lead ICSE and We Lead MYP/IB. Even after grade 8, many of the school activities and classes will be shared: projects, the UN Global Sustainable Development Goals, Arts and craft, PE, Music and performing arts. Leadership will be at the core of all school activities for all learners.

Warm Regards

Allan Andersen, Director

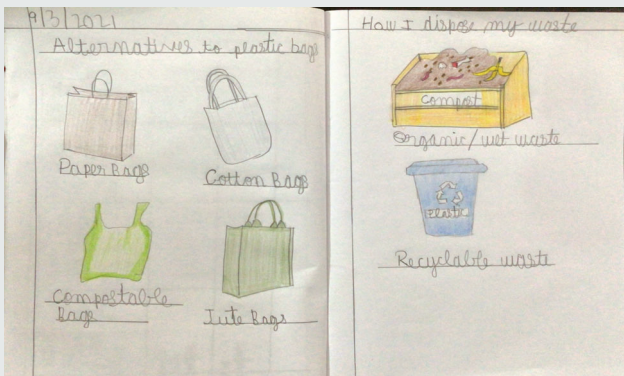
PBL PROJECT - WASTE MANAGEMENT

Learners are currently engaged in the Project Based Learning exercise which provides an opportunity for students to tackle the needs of the community around them. Our learners were trained on understanding what a community truly means and what value it holds. They were informed that community goes beyond human society and that it stands for the environment as a whole. At first, they were split into various groups and were urged to note down some of the pressing issues the community is facing through observation.

One of these groups included learners of Grade 1 and 2. By observing their surrounding, the problem that they had identified was waste management. Once they had decided that this is the issue that they aim to find a solution for, they were trained on understanding the different kinds of garbage and how it is segregated. Learners were familiarised with the concept of waste separation through a fun and engaging experiment. To understand the difference between waste that decomposes and waste that doesn't, the task was to prepare different plastic bottles filled with soil and put varying waste materials such as glass pieces, aluminum foils, erasers, eggshells, banana peels, etc in each of them. The learners were then asked to make an observation sheet with their predictions on the outcome of the task. They would hence identify what items could then be recycled into the environment.

The project also opened the doors for learners to understand the key process of waste management such as the conversion of waste into biogas. They also learned about the various organisations involved in this process. It was important that through community development, the learners were able to acquire some knowledge on the science behind recycling.

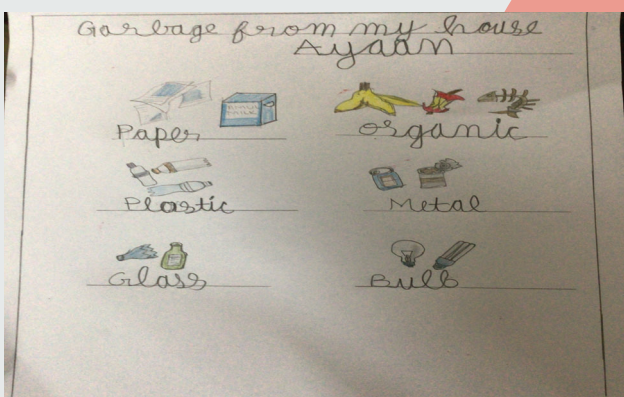
After a thorough examination of the issue, the learners then pitched their solutions to tackle it. The learners are also allowed any form of expression to speak on the changes they want to make. This includes speech, presentations, poetry, theatre, or any other forms of expression. PBL ensures not just a short-term solution to a larger community problem, but a sustainable one. The priority of any PBL activity is to firstly protect the planet, and then the people who can keep the project alive and finally, produce a profitable way of ensuring the project can continue.



Innovative garbage disposal bag ideas presented by our learners



Experiment conducted by Mohammed Ayaan



Mohammed Ayaan presented a drawing of different types of waste that he observed in his household



Vivikta Kodli presented a drawing on "what goes into our garbage"

JOY OF READING UPDATE

The Joy of Reading (JOR) program is an ongoing personalized program designed for students to discover, explore and develop an inclination towards reading. It has been three months since the JOR lessons took action and the facilitators are beyond pleased with the impact it has had on our students. The JOR lessons enabled the students to transport to interesting places, interact with characters and escape into different worlds making it an exhilarating experience.

The JOR program is personalized because it caters to each student's reading level. The reading material is chosen taking into consideration the child's interest and pace with varied difficulty levels. This ensures that the child engages in reading without having it intimidate them.

During the course of the program, we have introduced a diverse range of genres involving a journey from fantasy, fiction, drama, poetry to non-fiction, autobiographies and more!



"I personally enjoy Joy Of Reading because our teacher not only focuses on reading, she focuses on learning! The classes are always joyful and it's fun learning with each other and thus, I never get bored. I am also fascinated by the news test that we have at the end of each session"

- VIRAT MEHTA, GRADE 5

"Joy of Reading is one of my favourite subjects! We discuss lots of interesting topics like the sea, space and the Himalayas. I also love the debates we have! This subject helped me in building my confidence, my fluency while reading and learning new words."

- NYNEISHIA YOGESH, GRADE 5

MUSIC LESSONS IN FRENCH IN EARLY YEARS!

Our French language facilitator Maxime B conducted a fun-filled musical session for our little ones. They learnt the iconic song “Hakuna Matata” from the Lion King in French. It was an extremely engaging session as there was lots of learning, singing and dancing.



MEET OUR STAFF

Rebecca Raphael is an enthusiastic facilitator and an aspiring writer. Rebecca is currently the homeroom facilitator for Grade 2 at Chaman Bhartiya School and handles the subjects of English and Social Studies. She graduated with a triple major degree in Journalism, Political Science and English Literature from Kristu Jayanti College. She has successfully earned a certification in TEFL and TESOL and is especially interested in the science behind language skills.

Like her fellow colleagues, Rebecca also is an avid reader and believes in the power of developing good reading skills early on for the students in the school. She adores the library and its extensive collection of books. Rebecca also takes pleasure in working on the editing and fine tuning of the assembly videos which are put out by the school every month. It brings her tremendous joy to see how excited the learners get while viewing the final assembly on the screen!

Rebecca tends to enjoy being busy and has plenty of fun hobbies! According to her, learning a new skill is the best use of time. Pottery, video games, playing badminton, baking and listening to music are just a few of her favourite pastimes.

