



**FOCUS**  
SCHOOL

# fenestra

**A Window to our Culture of Learning and Sharing**

**VOLUME IX**

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**NOOR KHAN BAZAR EDITION**



**Art by Zoha Keshwani**

**Childhood is the most beautiful of all life seasons!**

# ART GALLERY



Adding Creativity through Brush (Left),  
Making Every Artwork Extra Special  
(Right)



Powered with Abstract Design (Left),  
Heart full of Artful Creations (Right)



The Essence of True Feelings (Left),  
Artistic pursuits found here (Right)



More Than Just a Sculpture - Sakina  
Haider C5C



Let's be Crafty, Let's be Creative



Art is Gift of Nature - Mohd Amanuddin  
Farooq C4C



Creative Imagination - Mohd Ayaan  
Ahmed C4C

# The Pinecone and Pebble Museum

By Minhaj Arastu, Principal

One day, I saw a pinecone on a side table. A few days later, there was a pebble in the corner of the bedroom. After that, a bunch of crushed leaves came out of pant pockets in the washing machine. Day after day, the children were discovering creatures and objects from outside and bringing them into the house. My first instinct was to ask them to “throw it away”, “clean it up”, and “not bring garbage in the house” (or in the pocket!). My parent-as-housekeeper mindset could not bear the clutter.

After being exiled, feathers, dried out insects and shells started accumulating on a forgotten table in the storeroom. Whimsically, I started to call the table a ‘museum’-- whenever the children found something fascinating, I told them to put it in their ‘museum’. They took it to heart and in a short while, there was a huge collection of cement shards, pebbles, rocks, and granite chips.

At school, the children were learning about the creation of the earth and how rocks are formed. Their classmates brought in gemstones in all colours of the rainbow. Some brought geodes in full bloom. I recalled a 5-kg amethyst that my father had found in the jungles of Narsapur and sent it to school with the children.

Something was snowballing and it looked like something worthwhile. After a field trip to a *real* museum, the children were interested in buying a few polished gems: agate, amazonite, obsidian.

They made a distinct effort to pronounce these odd names. They learned how ‘igneous’ and ‘sedimentary’ rocks differ. They paid attention to how much money they needed to buy the gems. They orally presented their rocks to a family gathering. My parent-as-educator eyes started to twinkle.

The makeshift ‘museum’ was becoming a laboratory for the children to study and inquire about their surroundings *on their own initiative*. Maria Montessori’s words ring true time and again: “follow the child”.



*Note: For any students or parents who are fascinated by gems or unusual stones, please ask Ms. Zainab to show you the rock collection in the Darushifa Campus Science lab.*

# Standardised Assessment - A Tool for Teachers to Help Students

By Mirza Alamdar Ali, Vice Principal-Operations

After a struggling phase of 2 years, it is good to see that schools are again lightened up with the physical presence of children and teachers who have stepped up with their zestful and exuberant spirit of helping the children to face the challenges that the pandemic has imposed on them.

Focus High School have always aimed to enable children to excel in all aspects and now when we are tasked with the education of 2000 children at a time, we want to explore more strategies and innovative methodologies to understand the needs of children with changing times and impart more effective learning.

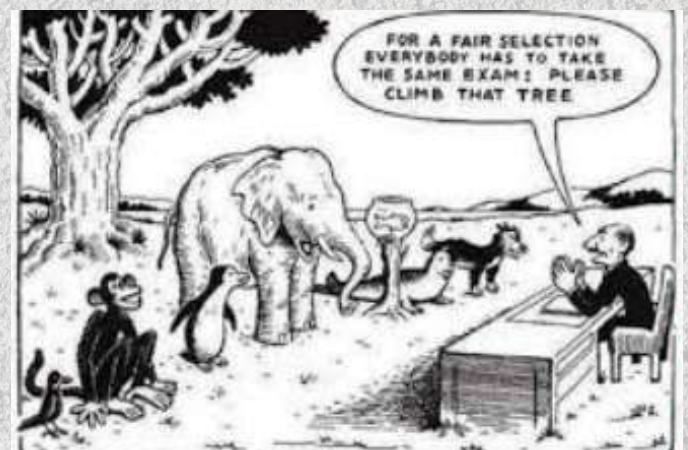
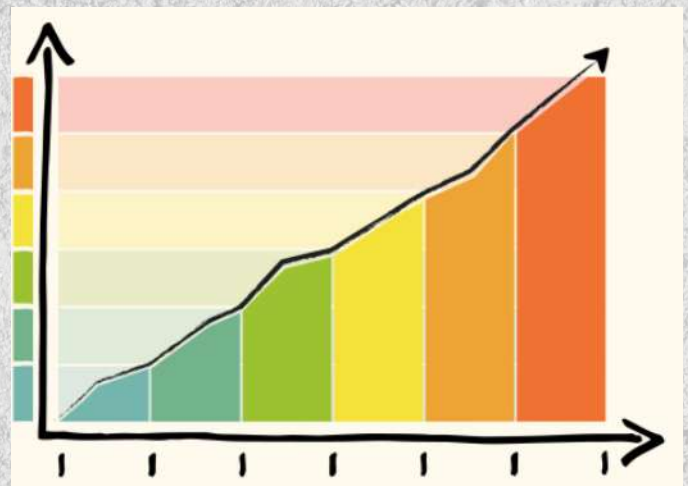
Among them one thing we want to introduce in coming days across all the campuses is a Standardised Assessment System. It will be a detailed diagnosis of students' learnings through a general assessment. It is meant to be an internal assessment of academic standards and will not impact on the promotion or the detention of students. Assessment results will be taken ahead in the planning by the subject specialists to help our children close those identified gaps.

This practice will be implemented in 2-3 cycles in a year. I believe this approach will help us identify the learning gaps in a more comprehensive way, so that we work on them in a more targeted way than ever.



**3 Advantages of Standardized Testing**

- Identifies learning gaps in individuals and groups
- Helps compare progress between classes and schools
- Eliminates discrimination and marking bias



# Agency – The Key to Success

By Sheherbanoo Fathi, Vice Principal-Curriculum

Agency and self-efficacy are essential components of learning in the PYP. The programme encourages learners to be agents for their learning, thus enhancing motivation and efficacy. Students direct their learning based on their identity and belief and in collaboration with peers, build a sense of community and be open-minded through awareness of the opinions, values and needs of others (International Baccalaureate Organization n.d.).

To support and provide students with the opportunity to develop the fundamental skill of being agentic learners, Focus School initiated a Programme Development Plan (PDP) with a focus on Student Agency. The school was honoured to be selected for the PDP pilot programme with the support of Ms. Rima Singh - Head of School, DPS International, IB Chair, PYP consultant & Evaluation Visit Team Leader.

The programme was initiated by conducting orientation with teachers, and parents and a survey, that provided an insight into the understanding of agency by the stakeholders of education and the possible challenges teachers face in implementing agency in an educational environment.

Our next step was to draft essential agreements related to the agency's implementation and develop an action plan for the same. The action plan consisted of strategies to execute agency, such as:

- Involving students in planning and assessment

- Giving them a choice in the use of resources and ways to achieve the learning objectives
- The student council was yet another step in this direction.
- A passion project for grades three and four also promoted agency and provided students with an opportunity to develop and pursue their interests through guided support from teachers and parents.
- Personal goal setting for classes one and two
- Promoting student-initiated action.
- Setting classroom environment
- PYP Exhibition for grade 5

By taking individual and collective action based on their learning, students understand the responsibilities of a global citizen.



## References:

- International Baccalaureate Organization (n.d.). Primary Years Programme - Curriculum framework. <https://www.ibo.org/programmes/primary-years-programme/curriculum/>
- Wright C. (2022). Student Agency. <https://www.thinkib.net/media/ib/leadership/change-management/student-agency.png>

# Learner Profiles - Key to Fostering Agency

By Amena Ara Imran, Primary Years Programme Coordinator

Reach out to them first, before you teach!

It's no secret that relationship-building is a key component of effective teaching. Getting to know our students not only increases trust and engagement, but also helps us differentiate instruction and personalise learning in a better way. The more a teacher knows about a student's background, strengths, knowledge, and learning style, the better he or she can target instruction toward the child's learning needs. In fact, studies show that knowledge of individual students does have a measurable positive impact on student achievement.

But the question is, with so many students in our classrooms, how can we get to know them on an individual level? To accomplish this we need to set the wheels of the Learner Profiles attributes rolling!

Learner Profiles are a set of ten attributes which all members of the IB community - students, teachers, parents and all stakeholders - should be encouraged to develop. They represent a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that go beyond intellectual development and academic success. Teachers use these attributes to build effective relationships and develop an inclusive classroom.

The attributes of the learner profile are associated with topics taught throughout the year. Students across grades develop these traits as they inquire through a topic or integrate it with specialist subjects. Learner Profiles are kept in mind during planning, execution and reflection. The PYP Exhibition is also a great platform where students showcase all the 10 learner profiles and address major issues holistically.

During our PYP exhibition on sustainable goals, it was impressive to see students connecting more than one Learner profile with each goal and actively taking roles as change makers.

Learner profiles are showcased and practiced in the form of presentations, videos, stories, role-plays, poems, games and songs. The Exhibition provides opportunities for creativity and risk taking attributes that are also an integral part of Learner Profiles. Over the years, students exercise the learner profile traits in deeper and deeper ways. In short, they become agents of change and budding global citizens!



# Kindness and Compassion Vital for Survival

By Maryam Mirza, Pre Primary Coordinator



"We rise by lifting others" - Robert Ingersoll

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. Kindness is the rarest thing that can be seen in today's world. Acts of kindness boost energy and give a wonderful feeling of optimism and increased feelings of gratitude to appreciate what we are, when helping those less fortunate. It is a key ingredient that helps children feel good.

Why is kindness important? When we practice kindness either towards ourselves or other people, we experience positive mental and physical changes through lowering stress levels and increasing the body's production of feel-good hormones.

In today's world, children are exposed to social media and a graphic sphere which makes them self-absorbed and oblivious to their surroundings. They tend to focus on things which are in front of them, are not far sighted and don't realize the effects of being unpleasant towards others.

All said and done, children have a natural instinct to be empathetic towards others.

Being kind is contagious-Parents and teachers must take advantage of this instinct in children and should always encourage them to practice caring, sharing, helping others, greet & appreciate, taking turns, or helping someone who is hurt. In everyday life, as they grow they will learn that kindness is attractive and being kind creates connections and strengthens the circle.

Kindness and compassion can arise from empathy. When compassion does lead to action, we often call the result kindness.

Kindness always includes the intention to benefit other people, by being courageous, as it will help the child to grow and be a role model for the community.



# NURSERY

## Importance of Self-Discipline

By Sameera Roopani, Nursery  
Homeroom teacher

The key to success undoubtedly lies in "Early to bed, early to rise makes you healthy, wealthy and wise."

The single most important attribute to becoming successful is self-discipline. It helps us to stay focused on reaching our goals, gives us courage to stick with difficult tasks and allows us to overcome obstacles and discomfort as we push ourselves to new frontiers. With discipline, we can achieve our goals, stay focused on our behaviour, and develop our skills.

We create discipline by creating habits. Once something becomes a habit, we no longer need to force ourselves to do it. We stop making excuses and don't wait for tomorrow and get the task completed immediately. Using a daily 'To do' list helps us keep a track of what we need to do to achieve our goals.

When we develop self-discipline, we find ourselves happier and healthier. Some of the activities done in my class are as follows:

- Use of magic words [Please, Sorry, Thank you, Excuse me]
- Show and tell [children learn from us and our actions, always remember to portray positive behaviour in front of children].

- Giving attention [This is the key tool for effective discipline, children seek attention from parents and teachers. Always applaud them when they are disciplined].



Yellow Colour Day Celebration (Left), Red Colour Day Celebration (Right)



Green Colour Day Celebration (Left), Blue Colour Day Celebration (Right)



Independence Day Celebration (Left), Chopping Activity (Right)



Independence Day Celebration (Left), Role Play on Traffic Safety (Right)



Making Fruit Salad (Left), Tour in the Neighbourhood (Right)



# PP2

## READING- A PASSPORT TO YOUR COUNTLESS ADVENTURES

By Sara Azher, PP2 Homeroom teacher & Team Leader

If you are reading this article, If you have good communication skills, You should be thankful that you have the ability to read.

Reading from a young age makes a child perfect and strengthens their communication and literacy skills. It helps them know new words and perspectives. In Pre-Primary, students are exposed to reading in different ways. Reading is not only learning new words or reading a paragraph. Picture reading, storytelling, singing rhymes also refers to the above topic.

In PP2 students are introduced to story books, magic pots, picture reading and more. Students borrow library books every week to enhance their skills. They are involved in the LET'S READ Program in which they enhance their vocabulary and strengthen their overall language skills. Every Monday we have the DEAR Program (Drop Everything And Read) in which students are instructed to leave everything and read a book. Apart from this, they use flash cards which include pictures and sentences which helps them reinforce their reading skills. Every month we have a reading diagnostic test in which we check students' reading age so that we can help them to boost their reading through different activities.

### HOW PARENTS CAN HELP CHILDREN TO READ?

If you read with your child at home, then you are supplementing what they learn in the classroom as well as giving them additional one-on-one support. To have successful and effective reading sessions, consider the following:

- Start young.
- Create a learning environment at home- set up a library.
- Make reading a part of your routine.
- Have children tell you a story.

Another way parents can support their young readers is to present reading as a choice, not a chore. Encourage their literacy journey by giving them choice in what they read. Giving kids a choice in what they read not only improves their literacy skills but also increases engagement.



## LEARNING BY DOING

By Asma Fatima, PP2 Homeroom teacher

Children learn by observing, listening, exploring, experimenting and asking questions. Being interested, motivated and engaged in learning is important for children. Learning by doing means learning from experience results directly from one action. In other words, it is a method by which a student makes the most of their education through active participation. Throughout this process, the learners take ownership of their own learning whereas the teacher's role is to guide students and facilitate them by providing multiple activities and teaching materials.

Learning by doing is a more engaging and effective way to learn. For example, In PP2 children learnt how to prepare a sandwich. This sense of ownership builds interest which is retained throughout the activity.



Show and Tell-Healthy and Unhealthy Food



Learning Patterns and Sequencing



Practical Skill Activity- Preparing Sandwiches (Left), Learning Patterns and Sequencing (Right)



Famous Freedom Fighters (Left), Bringing Healthy Snacks Daily (Right)



Story Retelling (Left), Learning about Road Safety (Right)



Blind Fold Game-Topic Senses

# CLASS 1

## Classroom Environment- Student agency

By, Class 1 team

“Student choice is more than simply picking a task. It’s about owning the entire learning process.” - John Spencer



Student Agency conveys a substantial amount of freedom and responsibility for our students, thus developing leadership qualities. We create opportunities for them to actively participate in the designing of their learning journey and also facilitate reflection which is an important part to enhance their mindset.

Give the student voice, choice, ownership and just watch the transformation in them. In today's life, giving freedom to students is like giving them wings to fly. When we recall my days as a learner, we seldom got the opportunity to voice out our opinions. But, in today's evolved education system, the learners are blessed with ownership to choose their learning. They are given opportunities to explore and express themselves to develop self-efficacy. Ways how we implement student agency are:

1. Essential agreements - students collaboratively draft their own essential agreements to enhance their learning environment.
2. Classroom layout - students have the liberty to choose to arrange the seating layout.
3. By Me and For Me - self assessed reward charts where students assess themselves on the criterias created by them and the reward determined by a class voting system.

4. Grouping Strategies - through the various grouping strategies (eg:- choose a partner whose name ends with the same sound, make a group of 3 who have their birthdays in the same month, interest groups, popsicle sticks).

Giving students' agency empowers the young learners and nurtures them to become responsible, confident, better decision makers and problem solvers, this in turn reflects their attitude towards themselves and the community.



Enhancing Vocabulary Words (Left),  
Antonyms Activity(Right)



Circle Time! (Left), A Healthy Outside  
Starts From The Inside (Right)



Daily routine! Watering the Plants (Left), Students  
Active Participation in Van Mahotsav (Right)



Fun Hand Print Activity (Left), Dress Up  
Day (Right)

# CLASS 2

## AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT - Taking action!

By, Class 2 team

“ The universe doesn't give you what you ask for with your thoughts, it gives you what you demand with your action”.

- Steve Maraboli



‘Taking action’ being an essential element of PYP, should be student-led and meaningful. Student agency at its finest should ideally be the action taken by students. At Focus School, we aim to guide students to take responsible, informed and meaningful ownership of their learning, giving them a sense of purpose to their learning through experience and enabling their voice to shine through. The best way to encourage them is by giving knowledge of how action looks like and appreciating their smallest efforts. Action is not limited to school only, it can be easily integrated at home, in society or just a small change in their thoughts.

Class 2 students learnt interesting and engaging units which provide a lot of opportunities for them to be organised in their lives. They learned different strategies which helped them be more organised, like creating To-Do lists and prioritising their tasks using Priority Matrix. Students used self-management skills to enhance their learning to manage their time and emotions.

In the unit ‘Health and Wellbeing’ students became aware and involved in improving their lives by preventing germs, exercising and eating healthy food. Students developed commitment by working on fitness goals, developing a plan and following it diligently to reach their goals. They demonstrated an understanding of a balanced diet by sorting food plates into various food groups.

Students recorded their daily meals using a loop tracker which helped them measure the change in eating habits. The unit ended with a Junior Masterchef Competition where students enthusiastically showcased their understanding of the unit and the importance of a balanced diet.



Best Friends Forever (Left), Jigsaw Reading (Right)



MasterChef Competition (Left), Visible Thinking Routine Tug of War (Right)



Fruits and Vegetables for a Fruitful Life (Left), Group Discussion (Right)

# CLASS 3

## How We Express Ourselves

By, Class 3 team

Imagination is the key to inquiring, implementing and expressing. When students use their imagination, they can create anything that is related to their learning activities in daily life. Therefore, imagination and creativity are closely related. During our unit of Inquiry “How We Express Ourselves” students played with their imagination and expressed their thoughts vividly staying connected to the Central Idea ‘imagination helps us to think, create and express ourselves creatively.’

Students were asked to choose material from any resources including recycled items. In our class, we preferred to use recycled stuff such as plastic bottles, toothpicks, bottle caps, disposable glasses, rope, foil papers, cardboard boxes, dry leaves, ice cream sticks, old CDs etc.. This helped the students to reduce waste and gave them ideas to recycle waste products to create something interesting out of it.

Recycled materials were easily available and students were mindful of the unused items in their surroundings. This developed a sense of responsibility in students and we were amazed to see how creative students got with all the recyclable materials around them. We hope that the artistry students showed during this unit enhance over the years and help reduce waste on our planet.



Diversity in Flowers



Self - Reflection (Left), Sorting out Proper and Common Noun (Right)



3 Y's Activity (Left), Sorting out Proper and Common Noun (Right)



Vanamahotsava



Dress Up Like Flowers



Types of Passion

# CLASS 4

## PASSION PROJECTS - Skill for a lifetime!

By, Class 4 team

“The capacity to learn is a gift, the ability to learn is a skill; the willingness to learn is a Choice.” - Brian Herbert

Clay P. Bedford has rightly said that ‘You can teach a student a lesson for a day, but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.’ Passion Projects allows students the freedom to choose a topic that’s meaningful and something that resonates with their hobbies and brings pleasure in inquiring, exploring potentials and abilities of oneself.

During these projects, enthusiasm is one of the most powerful engines of success. When students do things they are passionate about, they do it with all their heart. Being active, energetic and keen about their passion would definitely lead them to the path of accomplishment of their goals with a sense of satisfaction.

Passion Project, also known as the Genius Hour, helps the learner choose their area of interest and drive their own learning as they gain understanding, knowledge and skills. Students of class 4 were given the opportunity to choose a topic they were passionate about. They were then asked to fill a survey stating their reasons for choosing the topic, their inspiration and how they would like to showcase their end product.

To promote a greater sense of agency, students were asked if they needed resources or an aid to guide them through their process and successfully reach their goals. This golden ‘Genius Hour’ kept students fixated on their projects, thereby bringing out their abilities to reflect, review and redo until they reach perfection.

It is also a formal way of assessing students' Approaches To Learning (ATL) skills for self-management, research, critical and creative thinking and collaboration. It is amazing to see parents equally involved in this project. Most parents suggested novel ideas for presenting the final product while others volunteered to be guest lecturers or aides in guiding students to reach their goals. With the responses received from students and parents, we are hopeful that the passions identified by students at this tender age will help them in nurturing a skill alongside their work in their specific subject expertise.



Putting Ideas Together for Passion Project (Left), Quit India Movement (Right)



Analysing News Articles (Left), Active Participation - Genius Hour (Right)



Participants of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (Left), Bharat Chodo Andolan (Right)



Importance of Trees (Left), Representing Different States of India (Right)

# CLASS 5

## By the Students, For the Students

By, Class 5 team

Agency was marvelously witnessed when we were selecting Student Council Members in class. Everyone was given a fair chance to participate and were asked questions based on their understanding and demonstration of Learner Profiles. Student's responses were judged by their peers and after a few rounds, each class selected two representatives based on the number of votes gathered in class.



Student councils are powerful leadership and learning opportunities and a great way for students to take on leadership roles, promote the voice of the student body, solve problems and impact their community. The purpose of the student council is to give students an opportunity to develop leadership by organizing and carrying out school activities and service projects. In addition to planning events that contribute to school spirit and community welfare, the student council is the voice of the student body. They help share student ideas, interests and concerns with the school wide community.

In addition to boosting confidence, the student council members at Focus School improve communication skills. When a student is chosen to run for student council, he or she is rigorously trained to be able to speak in front of audiences. Once elected, these individuals are donned with responsibilities like speaking openly with other students

- including problem solving and accepting feedback. Student councils promote a sense of personal responsibility among other students by reminding them the norms of school during recess and dispersals. When student councils take on leadership roles, they promote and uphold the values of the entire student body.

Every week, the elected Student Council Members meet and come up with innovative ideas for student's welfare which includes activities, ideas for discipline and events. The head boy and the head girl of Focus School act as positive role models and address most gatherings, giving an insight into the event being held.

Agency provided to the council members helps in building leaders who make a change and deliver a message of hope.



Celebrating Hindi Diwas



Celebrating Literacy Week with Clifford

## Learner Agency at its Finest!

By, Class 5 team

Right from the first day after summer break, students of class 5 were active decision makers and were quick in voicing their opinions. Soon after settling in, we co-created our classroom environment by adding creative displays and finalised various stations including a lunch corner, reading corner and a stationery area. Students at Focus School are remarkably equipped with ownership towards their classroom and school. By the time students reach Class 5, they have mastered the responsibility of being independent and taking ownership of their belongings, thoughts, actions and surroundings.

In PYP, the learner agency focuses on giving students the freedom to have a voice, choice and ownership to plan their goals and achieve them accordingly.

The voice of the learner is of prime importance. When students have a voice in their learning, they are aware that their thoughts are being valued, they feel absorbed in the decisions they make for themselves and collaboratively as a classroom. The teacher makes sure she hears everyone's voice and incorporates them in different aspects of her teaching.



As choice is concerned, students have an open course of action that they have the freedom to choose from. They decide what they want to learn, how they want the learning to go on, how their assessments should take place and on what aspects they're going to be evaluated on. During our unit on 'identity', students created the 'rubric' with detailed criteria on which they would assess their peers. The outcome of this peer assessment was then supported by clear reasoning.

Ownership includes taking responsibility for your own learning and 'creating knowledge' rather than just taking up information and believing it to be verifiable and accurate. This is evident when students take action after each unit and quite highlighted during the staging of the PYP Exhibition.

The flexible seating in our classrooms allows students to work in groups. This helps students identify situations where to be a leader and where they are supposed to take a backseat and let others lead, as that might be someone else's strength. When responsibility is given to children, they feel accountable for their actions and work accordingly. Each day becomes a learning experience for the child and they try to gain opportunities to fulfil their goals.



Scholastic Book Fair (Left), Balancing Stunts (Right)



# URDU

## اردو زبان میں مطالعہ کی اہمیت

By, Urdu team



Developing Urdu Reading Skills



Students Present the Story Through Pictures



Story Board Activity

اردو زبان ہماری مادری زبان ہے یہ بڑی پیاری زبان ہے ہندوستان کے علاوہ دوسرے ممالک میں بھی بولی اور سمجھی جاتی ہے کسی بھی زبان کو سیکھنے کے چار مراحل ہوتے ہیں۔ سننا، بولنا، پڑھنا اور لکھنا اسی میں سب سے اہم مرحلہ ہے پڑھنا اردو زبان میں مطالعے کی خاص اہمیت ہے جو کہ زبان کو سیکھنے میں مددگار ثابت ہوتی ہے مطالعے آپ کی تحریری صلاحیتوں کو مضبوط کرتا ہے آپ کی یادداشت کو بڑھاتا ہے آپ کے ذخیرہ الفاظ کو بڑھاتا ہے آپ کے علم کو وسعت دیتا ہے آپ کے دماغ کو متحرک کرتا ہے تناؤ کو کم کرتا ہے علم کو وسیع کرنے کا ایک ذریعہ ہے غرض یہ کہ کتاب سے بہترین دوست کوئی نہیں ہے اردو کا مطالعہ بہت دلچسپ اور پُرلطف ہوتا ہے اسی لیے ہم نے اسکول میں طلبہ میں اردو کے مطالعے کا شوق پیدا کرنے کے لیے اردو کتب خانے کا آغاز کیا ہے اردو زبان کا چلتا پھرتا

کتب خانہ جسے بچے اپنے جماعت میں ہی بیٹھے بیٹھے حاصل کر سکتے ہیں اور اس کے ذریعے طلبہ اپنی پسندیدہ کہانی کی کتابوں کا مطالعہ کر سکتے ہیں جس سے ان کی پڑھنے کی صلاحیت میں اضافہ ہوگا نئے الفاظ کی معلومات حاصل ہوگی جس سے ان کی تقریری صلاحیت بہتر ہوگی ہم نے ہر جماعت میں بچوں کو الگ الگ طرح کی کتابیں فراہم کی۔ ان کے معیار کے مطابق ان کی رہنمائی کی کہ آپ یہ کتاب پڑھ سکتے ہیں آپ کو یہ بھی کتاب پڑھنی چاہیے اس طرح بچوں نے اردو کی کتاب پڑھنے سے لطف اٹھایا۔ اس کے بعد اسٹوری بورڈ کی سرگرمی بھی کی۔

بچوں کو مطالعہ کرنا ہے حد ضروری ہے اس بات کو مدنظر رکھ کر ایک طلبہ کے والد نے اپنا اظہار خیال کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ انہوں نے اپنے بچے کے لئے اردو زبان کا انتخاب اس لیے کیا تھا کہ وہ اپنے مذہب اور ادب سے بچوں کو روشناس کر سکیں کیونکہ ہماری تاریخ اور ادب زیادہ تر اردو کی کتابوں میں ہی موجود ہے

وہ عطر دان سا لہجہ میرے بزرگوں کا  
رچی بسی ہوئی اردو زبان کی خوشبو

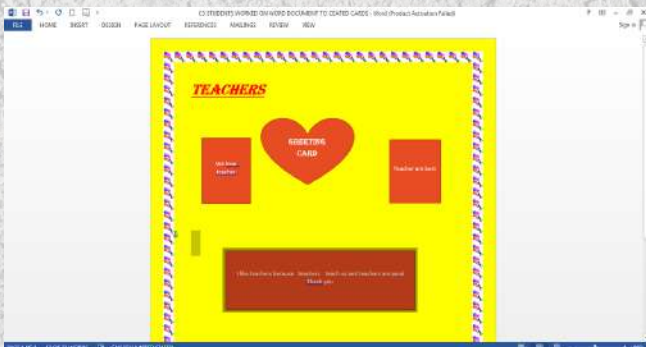
# ICT



Students Learning to Switch On the Computer



Students Learning to Shut Down the Computer



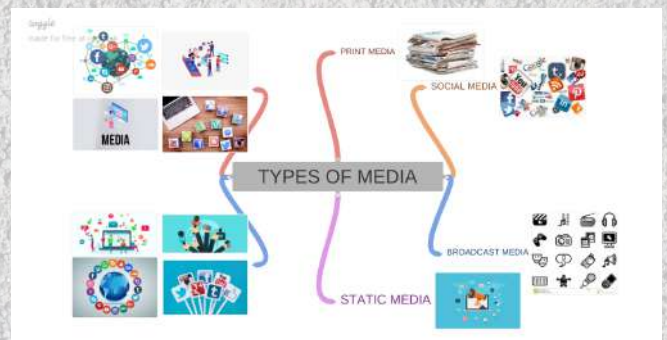
Students Explored Word Document Features



Students Working on Email



Students Saving Inquiry on Google Slides

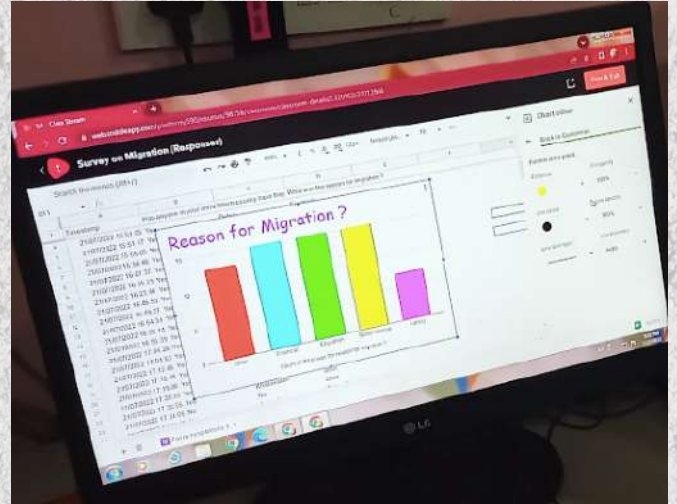


Students Creating Mind Map Using 'Coggle'

# MATH



Learning to Round off Numbers on the Number Line



Creating Digital Graphs for the Survey



Working on Digital Graphs



Angles Chart



Making Angles on Geo Board



Learning Place Values

# LIBRARY

## Approaches to Learning - Wheels to Success

By Asma Fatima, Librarian & ATL  
Coordinator

"The future belongs to those who learn SKILLS and combine them in creative ways." - Robert Greene

Approaches to Learning skills supports the IB belief that a large influence on a student's education is not only what you learn but also how you learn. In this article, I will explain the five categories of ATLs and will know how they can be used in transdisciplinary learning alongside in an inquiry-based learning environment.

It is vital that teachers and students collaborate to create a success criterion as this teaching and learning practice assists students to visualise what the ATLs looks like. When students understand what is expected from them, they are able to monitor their learning and to know when they have demonstrated the skills. Students' understanding of ATLs is developed incrementally through practice. At Focus School, we track the progress of ATL skills by students' reflection sheets and ATL mapping sheets. Each skill related activities are planned and implemented in the lessons by the teachers to develop and enhance these skills in students. Every activity has some or the other skills whether it is explicit or implicit teaching that not only develops students' skills but also promotes voice, choice and ownership in students. Below are some activities that not only help develop the ATL skills but also support students Agency:

- Create essential agreements in class.
- Behaviour trackers in classrooms
- Planning the lesson with students for their next class
- Planning strategies for skill development with homeroom teachers

When students take ownership of their learning and the action that they take from that learning, is the start of the new beginning. Our role is to provide opportunities that enable more active participation for the students. Embracing the ATL skills clusters side by side with our subject content helps in developing stronger, more self-regulated learners. Promoting skills development and Student Agency using deliberate strategies will help the next generation take on the complex challenges that life propels at them.



Reference:

<https://www.smores.com/f7c8k-inside-the-ib-atl-skills> (Mar 2018)

# LIBRARY

## Creating Great Readers!

By Farhana, Assistant Librarian

Teachers around the world are working round-the-clock to ensure students have meaningful learning opportunities. I've started researching online and spoken with many educators around my circle to know how to help students develop independent reading skills.

Provide Access to Books:

Books must be easily accessible to children. When a child decides to read, he/she must have books from various age-appropriate genres to choose from.

Look for a Variety of Reading Material:

Being inquisitive, children love to read books from the fictional genre in the library. Encouraging them to read books from other genres like how-to books, graphic novels, biographies, and even children's magazines would be a good out-of-the-box way to help children cultivate reading habits.

Let Humour Work its Magic:

You can pick one of the best funny books that would catch the child's interest and read the first few paragraphs aloud. Then stop reading. The child would be eager to know what happens next and he'll have to read it himself to find out.

Reading is undoubtedly one of the best ways to master the use of words and create a powerful vocabulary.

References:

<https://www.learnwithhomer.com/homer-blog/3665/reading-strategies/>

<https://www.understood.org/articles/en/8-tips-to-help-young-kids-develop-good-reading-habits>



Reading is to the Mind what Exercise is to the Body



Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader



Group Reading Activity



Books are Portable Magic

# Physical Education

## Student Agency in PE

By PE team

Students eagerly wait for their PE class. They are always enthusiastic about playing and never want to miss PE classes. Students express their feelings and happiness while playing with peers and encourage one another too. They insist on creating new games which increase their concentration levels and planning skills. This flexibility to use their voice and choice gives students a new sense of responsibility to lead and instruct their team members.

Since physical education is based on performance, we allow students to choose their own games and activities by which they can thoroughly enjoy their PE class and build competitive spirit in all sports-related activities and experience what works best for them.

Physical Education can be both fun and learning when we introduce a few standards and incorporate it with the interests of students.

Students have the power to take meaningful and intentional actions to fulfil their rights and responsibilities as individuals, thereby giving rise to voice, choice, and ownership.



**Bursting the Balloon**



**Placing the Cones in the Hula Hoop (Left),  
Meditation to Attain Peace (Right)**



**Jumping over the Hurdles**



**Running Zig-Zag Between Cones**



**Three Tie Leg-Teamwork Demonstration**



**Split Jumps (Left), Passing Ball with Foot  
(Right)**

# EVENTS



VanMahotsav Ritual



Group Asanas on Yoga Day



Clifford's Visit (Left), Book Browsing (Right)



MasterChef Competition (Left), Every Classroom has a Plant (Right)



Poster Making During VanMahotsav



Dress Up Day



Fancy Dress by C5, Topic- Medicinal plants



Fancy Dress Competition - VanMahatsov



# FOCUS SCHOOL-FOOD DRIVE

2 ZERO HUNGER



**Let's Join hands to support the needy!**

**One cup of rice each month  
can make a big difference  
in someone's life!**

**"Alone we can do so little;  
together we can do  
so much"-Helen Keller**

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