

# the school



## NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER - 2025

The newsletter for this month is an attempt to share with you some sights on campus as well as moments in the classroom to bring different learning contexts to the students.



# *A Special Concert*



Four students of the school from across Class 9 to 12 and an alumnus of school got together to present a medley of songs as part of the Long Assembly on Wednesday. The songs that were presented were in the genre of hard rock. The band chose songs by artists like Dire Straits and the Police among others. They included two guitarists, a drummer, a keyboard player and a lead vocalist as part of the assembly. They rendered eight songs over an hour as part of this presentation. The audience comprised the students of middle and





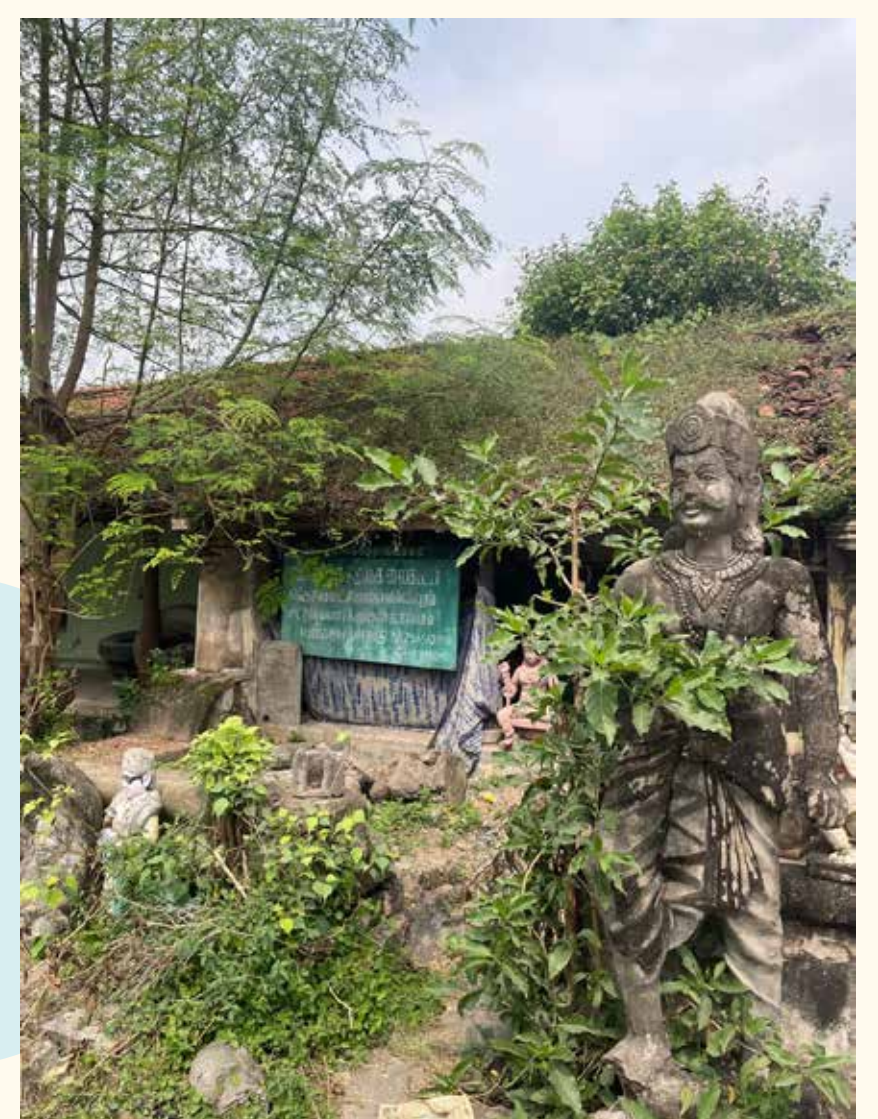
# The Staff Outing

It is a yearly event that sees the staff of school across all areas of the school come together to go on an outing. It is usually a Saturday and this year the destination was the Thiruvallangaadu temple at Tiruttani and Farmshaala- also near the same place. The latter is a space that has curated activities related to farming for visiting groups.



The Staff Outing is an opportunity for all the staff of school, teaching as well as non-teaching, to come together to experience some time with each other outside of the daily routine of school.

This year, the outing began with a visit to a temple known for its historical presence at Thiruvallangaadu. Following this the time at Farmshaala was spent in walking around, a ride on a tractor, understanding the world of bees and doing some transplanting work in a paddy field. The day ended with lunch and a long bus ride back to school. All the staff had a pocketful of memories to take back with them at the end of the day.





# A Glimpse into Class 12 Students Cooking









# *The Class 9 Symposium 2025*

The Symposium is a forum for Class 9 students to interact with students of the same age group of other schools. It is to facilitate study widely and deeply and engage in non-competitive interactions over issues of common concern.

This year the topic that was chosen was 'Socially Useful Public Resources – Manmade and Natural'. The intention of studying Public Resources in Chennai was for students to understand the need for such facilities, the history of it, the knowledge and technology involved, its relevance and impact on the community. We chose different areas of this topic for each school and assigned them along with the criteria, questions to think about, resources that can be used, and the different modalities of presentation. Some of the subtopics were – Transport, Education, Power and Electricity, Recreational spaces, Natural spaces - Flora and Fauna, Public Health, Telecommunications, Essential services – Police and Fire, and Water.





Students of the school chose Public Health as the area of study. Following this, for about three weeks the Class 9 students along with their teachers spent time reading articles about Health care in Tamil Nadu, watching a video on what are some existing structures and concerns in this area in India, listening to and interacting with two resource people – one on Public Health infrastructures in Tamil Nadu and the other on Public Health Policy making. They also had a session on the history of health care in the state. The students also visited the Tambaram Sanatorium, and the National Hospital of Siddha to understand how these centres contribute to public health.

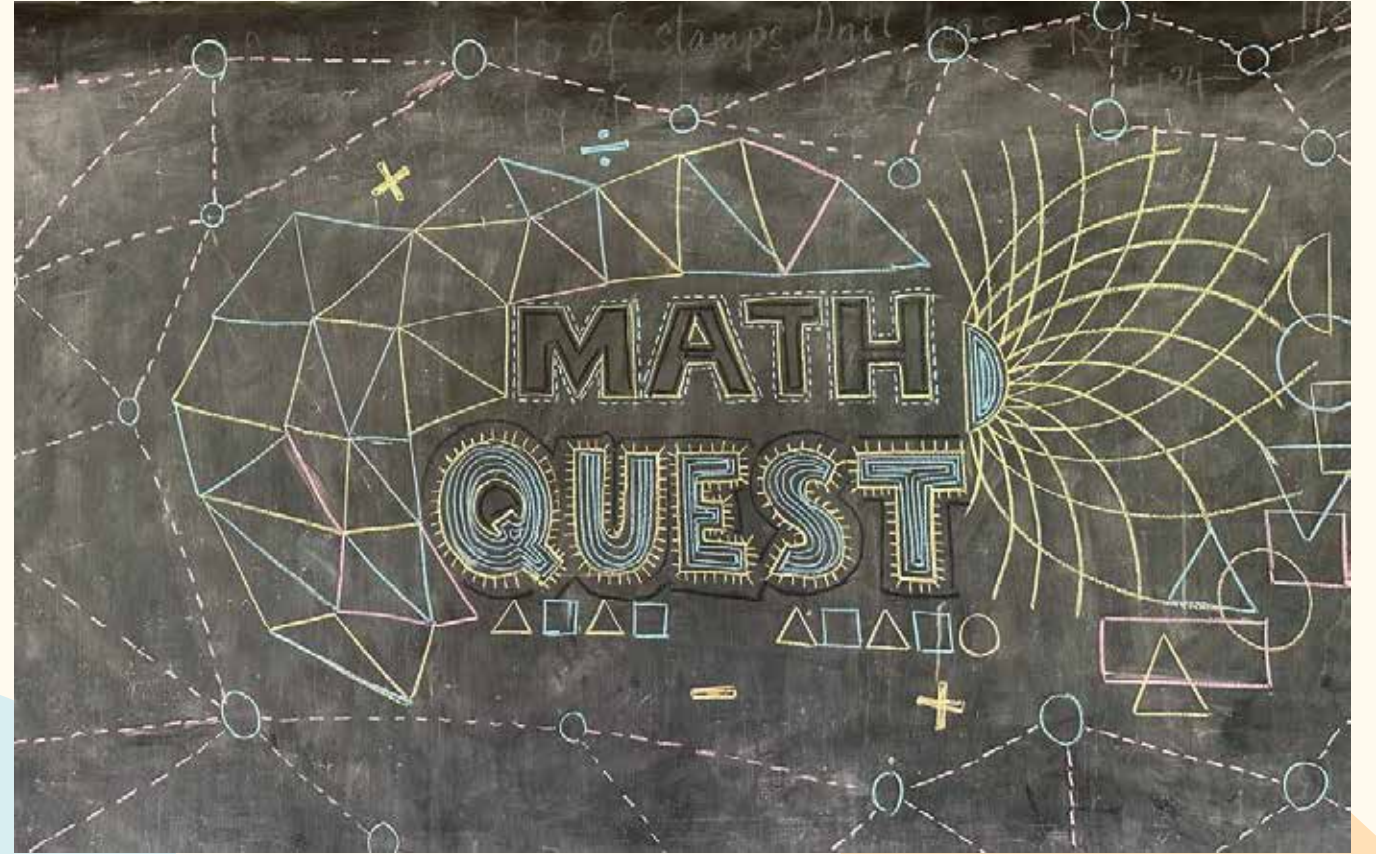


Students collated their work in small groups under relevant subtopics at the end of all these sessions and visits. They also added to this information from additional research online. They prepared their presentation based on the criteria given. Charts, models, speeches and power-point presentations were some ways they used to convey their learnings to the large group.

The two days of the Symposium saw students from the ten schools participate in the various activities such as presentations to the large group, displays and explanations to the small groups, answer questions raised by a panel, discuss in mixed small groups as well as do an activity and watch a documentary to add to the understanding of this broad topic. As a conclusion to the event there was a valedictory session with certificates of participation in the Symposium for all the students of the visiting schools.



# *Math Quest in Junior School*



The students of Class 4 explored mathematics in a fun way to work with computation of numbers as well as understanding of concepts. They worked on a series of puzzles and activities from Martin Gardner's approach to developing mathematical thinking. They used simple everyday material to explain mathematical thinking. These included ice cream sticks, thread and dice. They presented these puzzles and riddles to the students of junior school from Classes 2,3 and the middle school students from Classes 5,6,7. It was a fun yet engaging morning that saw the presenters as well as the audience engrossed in solving the math puzzles and engaging with the questions that were raised around math at this presentation.



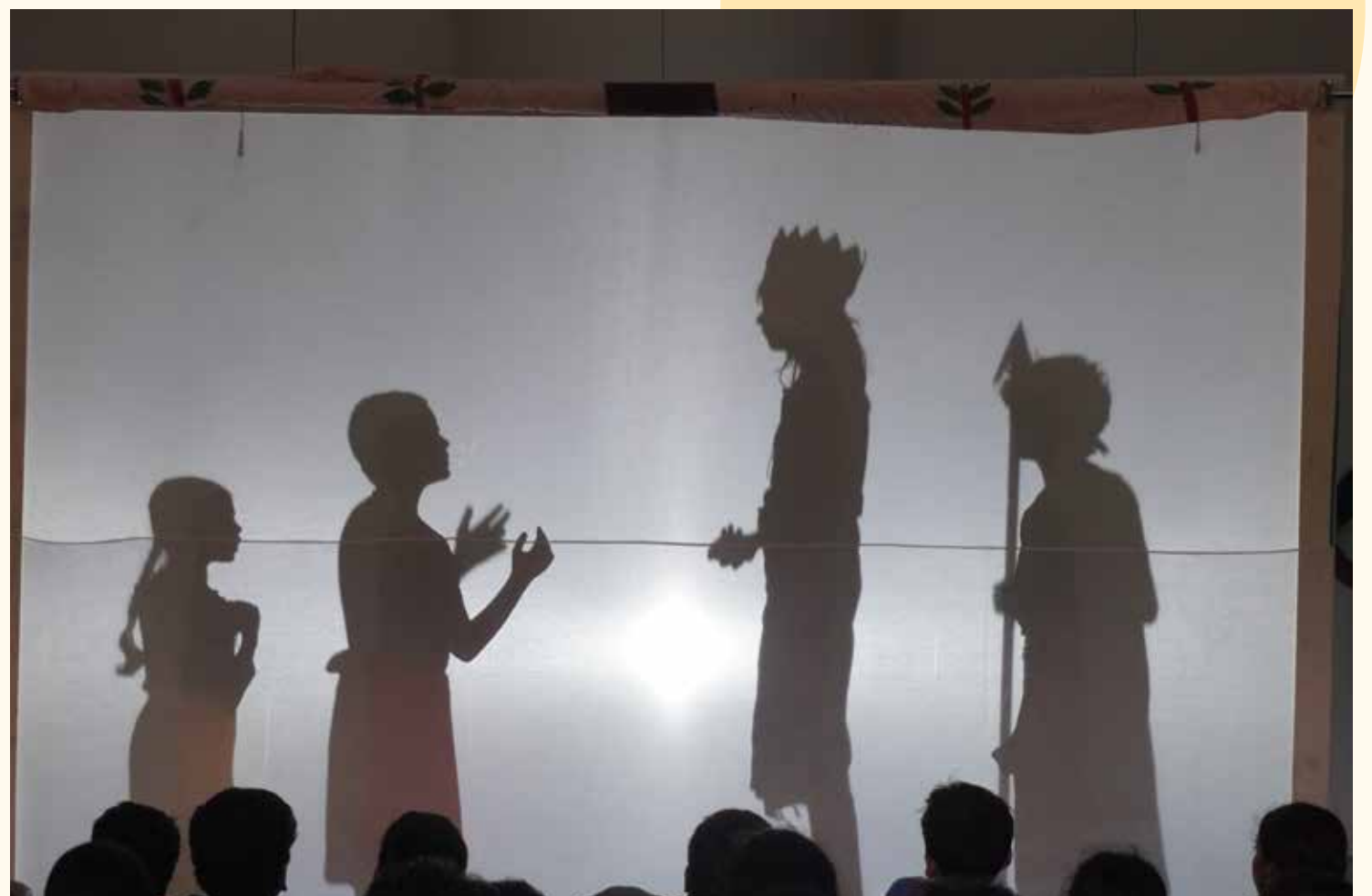


# The Middle School Presentation

The students of middle school worked on their presentation that happened in the last week of December. They were divided into six groups, each taking on an aspect of theatre and expression around the theme, 'Indian Folk Tales'. The students in each group were a mix of students from each of the middle school mixed age groups.



The stories were chosen after going over different Indian folk tales in the school library and after a few rounds of discussion, the final one was chosen to be portrayed on the day of the presentation by each group. There were plays that were bilingual, enacted in English using rhyme, shadow play, a Punjabi folk dance combining Bhangra and Gidra, a Tamil folk dance using the 'parai', all of which formed an interesting medley of theatre. There was a dress rehearsal on the day before the presentation for the junior school students who enjoyed it immensely. Parents of middle school and students of senior school formed the audience on the day of the presentation. There was much energy that found its expression in the hour and a half long presentation by the middle school students.





# A Visit to the Siruseri Lake



The students of Class 8 took a break from their daily routine and went to the nearby Siruseri Lake to experience some quiet time. It was a spontaneous decision, and the students were quite happy for this impromptu visit!

The students left after lunch along with three teachers. Initially there was some thought about also going to the Information Centre that has been recently built at the lake, but this was given up as there was no one to guide the group around the Centre.

The students sat quietly on the shore of the lake and watched dragonflies, butterflies and damselflies. They also spotted some fish as they walked further down to the hillock at the lake. Everyone was mesmerized by the weeds that were growing along the banks and there were many questions about it from the students. The entire group walked up the hillock and once again sat quietly to observe and listen to the sounds around the place. After about half an hour, the group left for school. One student remarked to the teachers, "I wish we could do this more often."





# Renaissance Under the Table

The Class 8 Students have been studying the history of Medieval Europe right upto the Renaissance and Reformation. Their teacher, Akhila Akka, was describing to them the toil and effort that it had taken Michaelangelo while painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

Of all the panels depicted, one of the most copied and circulated one is that of the Birth of Adam. Using a simplified sketch of that – just the arms and hands of God and Adam, they tried painting just like the artists, by painting while reclining and looking up at the painting surface.

This they did by sticking the sketch under their desks, using their bags to support their heads. They were told to only use water colours (though oil pastels were all Renaissance innovations). They could share colours, palettes and brushes if they needed to. There was no 'teaching-learning moment' thought of as part of this activity. It was just a finale to their study of European history; a fun task for both the teacher and the learner.





# Joyous Carol Singing

The students of LKG, UKG and Class 1 presented a medley of carol songs for the students of junior, middle and senior school on the last day of term. They had decked the area around their classroom with festoons, stars and also tree hangings.

The students themselves adorned colourful caps and wore dresses that reflected the spirit of Christmas as they sang together. All the songs were sung with great gusto by the entire group. The final two songs of the presentation were by the Class 1 students with a finale of wishing everyone a 'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.' One of the senior school students remarked, "I did not know that the kindergarten kids could sing so well!"

