



**RESIDENT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

Welcome to the passionate, engaging and exciting Swarnim International School. Swarnim is growing in infrastructure and our children are growing in confidence. Lets see what's new in the past 6 months:

**The Aviary:** This has 75 different birds of exotic species. It's the first of its kind in India where children can walk inside and interact with the animals and birds.

**Transport Facility:** We have introduced buses to meet our parents' demand for a reliable transport facility.

**News channel:** Swarnim has its own youtube channel where our students give you an insight into what's happening in school; this has brought multidimensional exposure for the children.

**Workshops:** At Swarnim, it is just not the child, the adults are also learners! Our teachers undergo regular professional development so as to apply the best practices in the classroom. Our support staff has undergone training on hygiene, communicative English and safety.

**Security:** Security being a prime concern for us, we have CCTVs in our school and on our buses. No unauthorized entry is allowed at any time in our campus.

**Value-driven Education:** To hardwire good habits in children from the beginning itself, monthly, we award values like honesty/ helpfulness in students through a Tree of Appreciation.

**Respecting Diversity:** Every week there is a Star of the Week. They share information about themselves and food from their native place. Our students taste gatte from Rajasthan or malpua from Bengal. They are just loving it.

**Social Awareness:** Developing a social consciousness, our students and teachers participated in a Rally for Rivers. This is a campaign to raise awareness that our rivers are depleting.

"Everyone who consumes water must Rally For Rivers." - Sadhguru

**Water**  
Grandfather saw it in a River  
Father saw it in Well

We saw it in Tap  
Children see it in Bottle  
Where will our grandchildren see it?  
In a Capsule ?

While we prepare our children for the future, let us also protect the future for our children.



**HEADMISTRESS'S MESSAGE**

The sky is clear, the mood is festive, examinations are over, the city is dressing up to welcome Ma Durga and the spirit of Swarnim is jubilant.

In our first newsletter I wrote about a few ways of improving English speaking skills among children. Within a year, we are overwhelmed with the progress our children have made. We are grateful to all the parents who have reposed faith in us and have reinforced the methods we follow in school.

Debarghyo from Class 1 has a lot to say and ask and we encourage his curiosity even if he is using Bengali. Now he has started conversing in English at school and his parents thanked the teachers for this seamless transition. Adrita and Ashmita's grandmothers say that both the children 'teach' their dolls in English. Both are in Lower KG. These feedbacks motivate us and reiterate that we are on the right path.

Very often parents tell me "We have to keep a tutor at home. We cannot help our child because we have studied in a Bengali/Hindi medium school." We want to clear such misconceptions. English is just one of the means of communication.

Being a Cambridge ESOL trainer, I conducted an interactive workshop, "Bridge the Gap" for parents. Again, I must admit, we were overwhelmed at the response and the receptivity. The workshop's premise was **ENGAGE – EXPLORE – EXPAND**. It outlined the importance of letting children take ownership of their own learning. We explored a few methods to improve communication skills of the child and the parents, like oral drilling, chanting, voice recording, reading in front of the mirror etc. The workshop also had role plays with the parent and the child so that we could point out how to monitor a child's response.

Let your child lead the way in improving fluency in English and both of you can learn together.

I wish you a very happy Durga Puja and a bright Diwali.

# CURIOUS CLASSROOMS GLIMPSES

"I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn." - Albert Einstein



## MAGIC OF MATH

Children are natural mathematicians. To prove this, we gave them playing cards. They had to sort them, place them under proper columns, and finally subtract the smaller from the bigger numbers. These activities can inspire deeper and more connected learning.

Class IV was learning fractions and the theme for August was "I Love My Country".

What could be a better idea than creating the national bird of India- peacock, using fraction strips! The students cut fraction strips and created a peacock. It helped them conceptualize fraction as a part of the whole. A pair activity also fosters teamwork.



## SOCIO DRAMATIC PLAY

Engaging in dramatic play enhances social skills. Upper KG classroom was transformed into a restaurant to make the children learn table manners. This activity was tailored in such a way that students were able to relate to other subjects like Mathematics and EVS also.

## NATURE AS TEACHER

### Nature as Teacher

"Plant a Seed" was organised to raise awareness among students about degradation as well as to take positive actions to revive the environment. Promoting the idea of a Green School, the students planted seeds in Planters recycled from used plastic bottles. The Science teachers availed the opportunity to explain the process of germination of seeds to the students as well. At Swarnim, EVS classes are sometimes held in the aviary, which also houses rabbits and guinea pigs besides birds. Tagore spoke of learning in the lap of nature and not in the confines of the classroom. When children interact with the birds and animals around them, rote learning takes a backseat.



## SCHOLARSHIPS

We offer scholarships for children for outstanding talents in various fields above 6 years of age. In the picture alongside is Aaryan Banerjee receiving a cheque for excellent achievements in Karate.



## WORKSHOPS & TRAINING SESSIONS

"The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn". - Alvin Toffler

Good teachers make a good school. Swarnim encourages teachers to constantly upgrade themselves and learn new things. The school takes the initiative to organize training sessions in the school for all its staff and parents.

Our team attended a seminar Samanyay- Transforming Learning Through Inclusion organised by The Heritage School.

An inclusive curriculum aims to provide quality education that will enable all children to learn effectively and participate equally in class.

*Dr Ameeta M.Wattal, Principal, Springdales School, Delhi* rightly said that inclusion is a mindset. It is not a program that we run or a classroom in our school or a favour we do for someone.



Training Session on *Communicative English* for teachers and the support staff was conducted by the Headmistress and the Administrator respectively.



A Yoga Workshop conducted by Ms. Anindita Mazumder, teacher of SIS.

Teachers participated in the workshop, "How to manage a hyperactive child?" at *Caring Minds*.

*Bridge the Gap* – an interactive workshop for parents and students was conducted by the Headmistress, Ms. R. Biswas.

Our team attended a workshop at Mongrace Montessori House on Effect of Environment on Learning organized by the *Early Childhood Association*.

Teachers attended a workshop on reading – '*Readers are Leaders*', conducted by Ms. Swati Sarawagi, Resident Director.

Ms. Arna Bose conducted a workshop on Personality Development for all her colleagues.

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD

Nurturing Global citizenship in young minds.

British Council's International School Award (ISA) program is an excellent platform to cultivate friendship across borders. We too have embarked on the ISA journey. ISA incorporates various activities with international dimensions and very well defined learning outcomes.

Children have learnt about the different calendars all around the world in their project *Calendar*. They are intrigued to find out that different calendars do exist, not only across the globe but even in our diverse country. Their curiosity led them to understand the links between the revolution of the Earth and calendars.

*Pupils for Ethical treatment of Animals* (PETA) activities sensitized the little ones about kindness to animals while through *Back to Future* they became aware of the need to protect the environment.

We have involved parents too in our journey. They were requested to send some evidence of how children are saving water at home for the very innovatively named project, *WaterWorldWide.com*

Our Preschoolers' joy knew no bounds when they had to dress up their dolls with ethnic wear of different countries for the activity *Diversity in Dress*.

Many other projects are planned throughout the year to supplement the curriculum at every level. Children will exchange their projects and ideas with schools from abroad. We ensure that every step in this journey towards excellence is an enduring learning experience for all at Swarnim.



## HIGHLIGHT OF EVENTS

"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."- Clay P.Bedford



MOTHER'S DAY



RABINDRA JAYANTI



SUMMER CAMP



YOGA FOR HEALTH



STAR OF THE WEEK



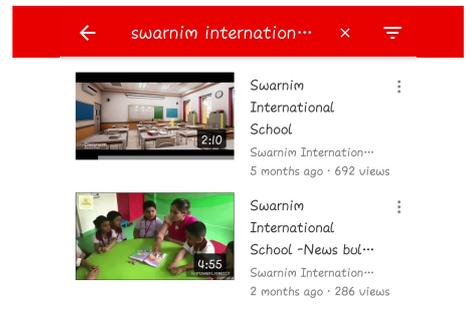
RAKHI CELEBRATION



TRANSPORT FACILITY



READING WEEK



YOUTUBE CHANNEL



TEACHERS' DAY



INDEPENDENCE DAY



GRANDPARENTS' DAY

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