

Group Report: FAITH

October 2013 – March, 2014



The Faith group is the eldest group at the Auro-Mira Vidya Mandir. They are simple, happy, kind, generous and compassionate. All of them are mature and very responsible. They can be assigned any job and there is no doubt that it will be done. The group exudes a quiet strength and they carry themselves with the grace and poise.

In the last six months the group worked on various projects, the details of which are given below:



Project 1 – Disaster

This topic was chosen by the students themselves. During a detailed study on this subject they read about, and understood the causes and effects of natural disasters like cyclones, volcanoes, tsunamis, floods and storms.

A detailed study of the topic was undertaken by consulting several books in the library followed by detailed discussions in the group. Several charts and drawings on the topic were also made.

Presentation – The project ended with an exhibition before the other two older groups – New Creation and Concentration.

Project 2 – Air and Water

The children enjoyed working on this topic and learnt the definitions, the various formations, sources of water, functions and qualities of air and water. They also studied the functions and qualities of air and water. Air pressure, the causes and remedies for both air and water pollution, water cycle were also studied in great depth.

Presentation – The children presented this topic in the science laboratory of the school before all the groups and each child from the Faith group presented one particular aspect of air & water.

The group also undertook other activities which are as follows :

1. A detailed study of the insect world was taken up .
2. An ‘improve your handwriting’ series of activities was conducted within the group.
3. The children also spent a lot of time with Tia Pelican, an art therapist from New York who came in December and the children learnt various aspects of art and craft from her.
4. The group also spent nearly eight days with the visiting students from MIS and had a very meaningful interaction with them.
5. Apart from academics, music, dance and theatre was also integral to the entire learning process. The children were a part of the play on ‘Jungle Book’ and learnt the table and the flute. They also learnt a European folk dance.

Mathematics



All the children from the Faith group enjoy maths and each child works according to her ability and at her own pace. The group worked with mental maths, measurement, volume and weight, simple fractions, percentage and prime numbers. They have also worked with concepts of time, money, transactions and conversion of money

Language

Oriya: Last month the students of the Faith group decided to take up Oriya as their second language for the NIOS (National Institute of Open schooling) exams. The focus now is to master the language as much as possible through reading books, stories and poetry.



English: All the children of the Faith group are very comfortable with English –both in speaking as well as writing it. The focus throughout the last term has been on improving their comprehension and writing skills. During the last month, the children have started reading as well working on some worksheets from the NIOS English book 1.

Computers

The children have now been attending computer classes and have now learnt to start or shut down the computer. They are familiar with typing as well as a few tools like paint brush. Over the last few months their endeavor has been to improve their typing speed. All the children now have a thirty minute long computer class five times a week.

Celebrations

The Faith group participated with full gusto in all the celebrations that have taken place in the school. Whether it is Diwali, or the Mother's or Sri Aurobindo's birthday, each day has been special and the group has participated as well as enjoyed themselves thoroughly.



Other Activities

The children of the Faith Group are totally dedicated to their everyday routine of a prayer and meditation session in the evenings. It is during this session that new songs are learnt too. On Thursdays, the children read Savitri the epic poem by Sri Aurobindo in a session lead either by Pranjal Bhaiya or the *diyas*. Swimming too has become a part of their everyday routine. Apart from two children, everyone else can swim very well.

In the last few months the Faith group has learnt more, they've moved ahead, without looking back. Errors or mistakes are always kept in mind, and the idea is to learn from them, without allowing them to burden the mind. The children of the Faith group are extremely loving, sensitive and capable. Our hope and prayer for them is that they continue to surge ahead with their heads held high, always!