

# GRATITUDE

## Group Report for 2017-18



**GRATITUDE**



Keeping some aims and objectives, we started our journey for the new session of 2017-18. We have gone through many interesting as well as challenging experiences on the path. Children are different in their attitude and also in their way of learning. Some children grasped quickly and some needed special attention and motivation to move forward. 15 children are there in the gratitude group who are 7 to 8 years old. Though most children had been staying in the hostel from before, but since January all children are staying in the hostel. Most of the children have developed a desire to learn. They were given exposure to explore in different areas- physical, mental, vital- according to their need and age, which helped them to draw out their inner potentialities. We worked on different projects to clear some concepts and gain new knowledge. They not only learnt English, Oriya, Hindi languages and mathematics but also learnt many things. They celebrated different festivals and participated in sports and games activities.



In the month of October, children went for a trip to **Bhubaneswar**. They enjoyed the train journey a lot. They visited many places such as National Museum Cuttack, Chilika Lake, Konark Temple, Deer Park, Barabati Stadium, Jagannath Puri, etc. They have their own song notebooks and have written many songs in English and Hindi and Sanskrit Sloka.



## Project

Children were interested to know about various things. First we studied about **Festivals of India** (RathaYatra, Holi, Mango parab, Buddha Purnima, Ram Navami, Navaratri, Id-UI-Fitr, Onam, Pongal, Makara Sankranti, Baisakhi, Ganesh puja, Janamashtami, BasantPanchami, Christmas, etc). They studied how people celebrate different festivals in different parts of our country. They knew a bit about religions- Hindu, Muslim, Christian and Sikhism, etc. The children learnt the names of twelve months according to Hindu calendar and in which month people celebrate different festivals. Children picked up new words and learnt the spellings and wrote in their notebook. The children participated enthusiastically in skill work related to topic.



After this, we studied about the **Great Persons of India**. They made a small book of these Indian heroes, got to know about their family background, education, childhood, contribution of these heroes to India. (Bhagat Singh, Mangal Pandey, Sri Aurobindo, Mahatma Gandhi, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Subhash Chandra Bose, Swami Vivekanand, Rani Laxmi Bai, Tanya Tope). In this topic, they did drawings of human figures observing carefully. Some children drew very well. They watched videos of great Indians and inculcated a feeling of patriotism and appreciated their good qualities.



Another topic was **Animals**. They studied about the classification of animals based on eating habit, based on habitat. -Herbivore, Omnivore, Carnivore, Scavenger, Frugivore, Aquatic, Terrestrial, Arboreal, Aerial, Vertebrate, invertebrate, etc. Classification based on reproduction in animals -Bird, fish, amphibians, reptiles, insects, mammals. We also discussed about the wild animals, domestic animals, migration and hibernation etc. In this topic also, children enjoyed a lot.

In **Solar system** topic, they knew the names of planets in Hindi as well as English. They remembered the names, spellings, how solar system functions, inner planets, outer planets, how long it takes to go around the sun. They loved to make models of planets. We talked about space and watched some videos of space and got indirect experience from the video which helped them to understand better.



In rainy season, children studied about the **Plants Around Us**. They tried to understand and identify different types of plants and also details about the parts of the plants, their scientific names, their functions, uses of the plants, and their relation with us and became competent to take care of plants. The students themselves planted some flowers; sowed some seeds of radish, beans, corn etc to observe the process of photosynthesis and germination.



**Human Body** was an interesting topic for the children. This helped them to know the names and understand the functions of their internal and external body parts. They are now aware of the different systems of the human body and how they work together.

In **Occupation** topic, they tried to understand the society and community in a better way. They observed and studied how all the people are engaged themselves, adopting various occupations. The children learnt the names and use of various instruments, tools, equipment used by different people in different fields.



## Math

In the first term of the session, we worked on Division. We introduced the words like dividend, divisor, quotient, remainder. Children themselves checked whether their division is correct or not, applying the formula of  $\text{Dividend} = \text{quotient multiplied by divisor} + \text{remainder}$ . We did a lot of activities on measurement of weight, volume and capacity. Children got to know which unit such as cm, m, km, ml, l, g, kg is used for what. Children solved many word problems related to these concepts. They found it challenging to solve word problems. After practicing a lot, some children were able to solve the problems, but some still struggled. We did addition on abacus of 2 and 10. We introduced Roman numerals. Children took interest in writing in Roman numerals. Most of the children picked up within a short time, how to write in roman numerals till thousand.



They have learnt the Indian and international place value, where to put the symbol of comma (,) while writing numbers and read accordingly. We did a lot of exercises of fraction: they were able to recognize unit fraction, like fraction, unlike fraction, proper fraction, improper fraction and mixed fraction, converting improper fraction into mixed fraction etc. They also learnt the words- numerator, denominator, whole, etc. We revised the four operations and solved word problems including the concepts of time (year, week, months). Many children face problem to understand the problem and need help many times. They hesitate to solve the problem independently. Once in a week, we make worksheets for the children to test how much they are clear about the different concepts. Most of the children try to solve questions given to them sincerely.

## Hindi

In Gratitude, we follow a schedule. Different days for various activities such as self-reading (swayampadhna), Abhyas Pustak (related to comprehension), group reading (samuhmeinpadhana), copy writing (sulekhalikhna), dictation (srutalekh), creative writing (sochkarlikhna). Children are interested to do all these activities. They are willing to know new things in Hindi. Whenever they don't get clarity, most ask.

In dictation: children are able to write words with matras. Recently they learnt the writing of half-letter words. They need more practice to write these types of words. Most of the children are able to write some half-letter words independently. Some are still struggling.



Most of the children are able to read independently, for tough words, they ask for help. We have started doing "Bhasa Drusti-1" Hindi book.

Some children are able to understand the questions and write the answers. Some need help of didis. They do group reading and listen to each other while reading. All the children do copy writing with interest and write beautifully.



In dictation also children are trying to listen carefully and write as the words are. Many children can write 15-20 sentences in Hindi in their own language.



## English

During this year we have focused on reading, writing, spellings, comprehension, grammar. Children took a lot of interest in reading as well as writing. Most of the children have improved their writing skills. Jagriti, Shubhra, Prabhat, Jagdish, Vikram, Urvashi are learning cursive writing. They read and listened to many storybooks of Noddy, Panchatantra and Kunnu the cub, in the group. They are learning spellings, participated in dictation and fill in the blanks, finding different words from the book. We read flash cards, which we made for project class. We tried our best to integrate English and project together. We have started doing some exercises related to grammar- Nouns- proper noun, common noun, collective noun, singular, plural, countable and uncountable noun, feminine gender, masculine gender etc. We introduced vowel and consonant: use of Article- A, An, The. We tried to understand tenses: present, past, future; opposite words, verb, adjective, adverb, and preposition from book-2 and 3 according to their level. We did many exercises verbally and in writing. It helps them a lot in improving their writing and comprehension skill.





They learnt how to use a dictionary to find out the meaning of difficult words of the story. Some children needed help to complete the book. In English class, they learnt the dialogues of the play called "Flying Airavatam" and performed in assembly. The children were fluent in speaking dialogues. In language games we mainly focus on spelling and vocabulary improvement. So they are playing speller, scrabble, Grab a word, puzzles of rhyming words and opposites etc. They have learnt many English songs and made an English song notebook to write the songs, which they have learnt. New song learnt by them are Move all you mountains (Joy singers), Fala la lala, if you want to sing like, Imagine, etc.



Gratitude group is learning odia for to the last 1 ½ years. They are divided in two groups- A and B. We have focused on reading, understating and speaking odia with proper pronunciation. The odia book 1 and 2 are given. Khagendra, Jagdish, Ratnesh, Kapil and Radhika are in the B group.

## **Festival & Calibration**

Children celebrated many festivals such as school's birthday, Sri Aurobindo's birthday, Janamashtami, Ganesh Puja etc. On school's birthday the whole school's children decided to do a play on evolution. They did a play in English of animals as a part of evolution. Apart from the play, they learnt a dance called Garba and performed it on School's Birthday. On 15<sup>th</sup> August, Sri Aurobindo's birthday, children studied about Odisha's freedom fighter Laxman Naik, Baji Rout, Jayee Raj Guru, BirsaMunda, VeerSurendra Sai.



They did a play of Baji Rout, they also learnt a patriotic song: ham laye hen tufan se kishtinikalke. Children also memorized "Surrender" Poem and did slow movements on that with humility group. On Ganesh puja, they did a Hindi play "How Rat became the vehicle of Lord Ganesh". On The Mother's birthday, children learnt Hymn to Durga in English and did graceful movements on it.

## Art & Craft

Children learnt how to make pen-stand by rolling paper. They also learnt how to make envelope and birthday card, peacock, building, collage, pussycat, gift box, and small toys by cutting, pasting and folding the paper. They have learnt basic and simple embroidery (plain stitch, chain stitch, satin stitch). Some children did embroidery with concentration. Some children enjoyed filling colour on the designs.



## Sports

Children do yoga, gymnastics and play football, base kick ball, dodge ball, kabaddi etc. They were cycling and skating. On sports day, children did skating and yogasana. Some children-Prabhat, Ratnesh, Vikram, Jagdish, Kapilper formed on stilts on 26<sup>th</sup> January.