



**2019-20 : Edition 4**

**You Choose**

- The Path you take...
- Your Thoughts...
- Your Attitude...
- Your Life...

***It's always your choice!!!***



**BOWL OF SPROUTS**  
*Had your dose of crunch today?*

# IMPRESSIONS & IMPRINTS – *from the desk!*

*God gave you a finger print that no else has, so you can leave an imprint that no one else can.*

It is an undisputable fact that the flow of the Newsletter is determined by ALL the activities that take place in the various environments every month! Every activity, big or small is addressed with the same level of commitment – not surprising since the philosophy of the school is to provide children meaningful learning experiences, that create **IMPRESSIONS** and leave **IMPRINTS**! Scroll down to the slide on ‘Spotlight’ to get an insight of this!!

The past month has seen an explosion of occasions and events! Taking senior students to Agra and Delhi to learn about the Mughal Dynasty exposed them to different dimensions of learning! The study of History offers scope for a variety of perspectives to reflect on! It expands thinking!

The Theatre Fest was simply outstanding, given that this was the FIRST time a Workshop Production for the Lower Elementary was explored – there was no experience of past years to fall back on!

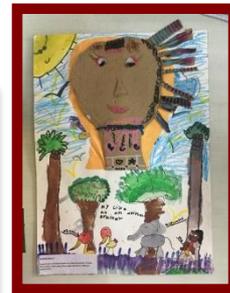
*This Newsletter carries the self-portraits of the students; their thoughts too have been captured in a tiny tag at the bottom of the portrait! Please read them!!*

Dr. Kalam said, “If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are key societal members who can make a difference. They are the father, the mother and the teacher”.

This month saw the celebration of Teachers Day! This Newsletter SALUTES the enthusiastic commitment and dedication of the Teacher Team of Sprouts! As you browse through this edition you will come across thoughts shared by a few teachers!

You will see the oneness of a shared vision, the imprint left by the knowledge of a great Physician / Educator / Innovator, Dr. Montessori whose Methodology guides your child’s journey at Sprouts!

*There’s a LOT that’s happened at Sprouts in September!! So...please settle down to relish this ‘Bowl of Sprouts!’*



# From the LAUNCH PAD of SPROUTS! *FIRST EVER STUDY TRIP*

An exceedingly exciting and enriching study trip that the students of the Upper Elementary and Early Adolescence embarked on, the First -Ever at Sprouts!

What could be more exciting than being ON SITE and hearing stories that make you reflect and wonder about an ancient time?

Whether it were the many **Grand Mughal monuments**, a few of them World Heritage Sites, or the **Jantar Mantar**, an ancient observatory built in 1724 by a Rajput King to study the celestial bodies, or the **Majestic India Gate**, dedicated to the Indian Soldiers of an Undivided India who lost their lives in World War 1, or the beautiful and **Serene Lotus Temple** – a Baha'i House of Worship that welcomes people of all faiths....the learning was.... extremely rich.

**What?**  
**Where?**  
**When?**  
**Who?**

**A Study Trip!**  
**To Agra and Delhi!**  
**31Aug19 – 04Sep19**  
**Senior students with Smita Ma'am,  
Shivani Ma'am & Ruchi Ma'am**  
**To explore and understand  
History on site!**



# From the LAUNCH PAD of SPROUTS! FIRST EVER STUDY TRIP



*The silhouette of a child saluting the Indian Tri-colour on India Gate – a symbolic gesture of acknowledgement and pride for the many lives, known and unknown who shaped her Past. They gave us the country we live in today, and we through these learning journeys shape our students for the India of tomorrow. The pictures give you a glimpse of a rich and rewarding study trip! Thank you, Ruchi Ma'am for making this happen!!*

***Our India!  
Our Beloved India!  
The Future of our Beloved India!!!***



*To be a Guide for children to learn to think for themselves and do the right thing in every situation. A Facilitator who encourages children to enrich their knowledge and provide an environment conducive for it.*

***Padmashri, Directress,  
Lower Elementary.***



# From the LAUNCH PAD of SPROUTS! FIRST EVER THEATRE FEST!!!

*A teacher - Someone who needs to be with the feeling of the child, bring in the connect, kindle their imagination and broaden their knowledge.*  
*-Poonam, Directress, Lower Elementary*

A presentation is the end product of a process. The process itself is an integration of various aspects aligned to form a whole.

For those who are a part of the process, the experience is one of worry and stress, interspersed with WOW moments that astonish and delight and create a sense of wonder...as in...Where did THAT come from????

For the viewer however, the experience is PURELY a sense of wonder, amazement, and joy!

A First Time event at Sprouts, the Workshop Production played out as a SMOOTH SUCCESS!

Given that nearly a third of the Lower Elementary Group had no prior theatre experience the confidence they displayed revealed learning internalized within, reflected outside!! For the senior children of the Lower Elementary...it was a breeze....

The Theatre Fest provided the space for children to explore a topic as deep as Child's Rights through listening, conversation, writing, art-work, feeling, emoting, acting....fuelling all senses! Surely the learning from this theatre experience has embedded itself somewhere in every child who was a part of it all.

To all the adults involved in this process....The Theatre Team from Creashakti, Anbu for taking the children through this journey using Art as a medium, Vedika of Yein Udaan for presenting serious profound issues in the form of stories a child could relate to and the Team at Sprouts that guides and produces MAGIC every time....The Fest was a Delightful Experience!!



# From the LAUNCH PAD of SPROUTS! FIRST EVER THEATRE FEST!!!

Ms. Anbu Selvi is an Art Teacher (also a parent) for our children of Lower Elementary. On asking her about what went into the young minds while doing these portraits, this is what she had to say!

## Hopes and Dreams

We are always excited when events happen and art can be a part of it. When young children are learning to freely express, there are feelings on the lines of:

*"Can I actually do this?"*

*"I don't think I know how to do this"*

*"Is this looking pretty?"*

While some can dive in and hold up their work, others need us to offer them a space where every thought and expression is acceptable. The Child's Rights Festival offered us that space we needed. Rights give us freedom – freedom gives us hopes and dreams. We tried to explore these concepts and some interesting conversations came our way when we started talking about what they thought would give them happiness when they are older.

*"I will be a singer, a performer, a baker, a doctor and a teacher all at once."*

*"I want to climb trees, I am good with monkey bars now."*

*"This is how I will be when I am older – look I have a baby."*

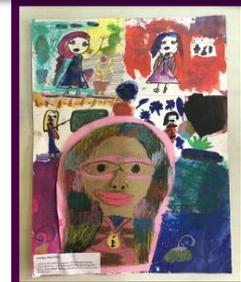
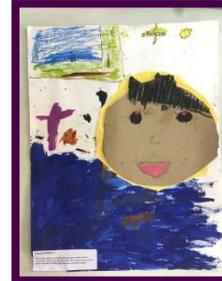
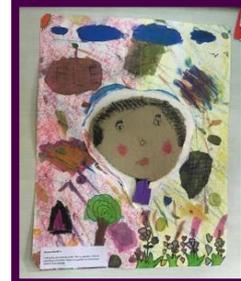
*"This is me playing with a spinning top"*

*"I am going to build robots and then write books about them"*

*"A magical world of unicorns and rainbows"*

Many of the works, regardless of what aspects of the future they set out to portray, had little people figures – human connections that they value and want to nurture.

**Our children have got it largely right, haven't they??**



# From the LAUNCH PAD of SPROUTS! *FIRST EVER THEATRE FEST!!!*

*Working with children makes me feel young and energetic.  
Every day I learn new things from them. Children add a  
meaning to my work. - Indira, Primary Directress*

*Art, a Powerful medium gave the children an alternate space to work with!*



# SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCER! – DR. MONTESSORI

*One test of the correctness of educational procedure is the happiness of the child*



*Dr. Montessori*

*Sprouts honoured a remarkable physician/educator and innovator who by observation, analysis, creation and application established an educational system that was guided by the child, now having presence all over the globe !*

*In a salute to Dr. Montessori students of the various environments found different ways to celebrate her birthday!*

*Children made charts and write-ups...a model of Dr. Montessori...offered flowers....simple gestures of gratitude....it was a beautiful day of happy and reflective remembrances of a remarkable individual!*

*Talking about Dr. Montessori, sharing her childhood, singing songs, making of Montessori materials, reviewing her quotes, having debates – all of these were experienced in all the environments from the Toddler to Early Adolescence!*



# SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCER! – DR. MONTESSORI

*“By being a Teacher she/ he must be able to learn and grow with the child!”*

*– Meenal, Directress, Lower Elementary*

The UE and the EA environment celebrated the Maria Montessori Day by engaging in a spirited debate on Montessori education vs Traditional education. True to Montessori philosophy, the choice lay with the students to debate for or against Montessori education! From the depths to which the teams researched and prepared for the debate to the clarity, relevance and presentation of arguments, there were many *WOW* moments that the Teacher Team experienced!

**Life skill activity:**  
Four of our children made Lime Mint Cooler for all the other children and the adults of the campus. The recipe, the ingredients and the final serving was all by the children, and for the children.



## A DAY IN THE MONTESSORIE ENVIRONMENT –AT UPPER ELEMENTARY



Reading & Research



Life-Skill Session



Reading & Discussion newspaper Sports Section



Self-work



Comic writing and drawing

*A perfect way to celebrate in memory of Maria Montessori; children enjoying their space, choosing their own work and each child doing what they like. And there is learning in every experience !!!*



*“The environment must be rich in motives which lend interest to activity and invite the child to conduct his own experiences” . – Dr. Montessori*

*The environment at school and home should be conducive for the child such that it kindles the interest and curiosity of the child and paves way for his well being and development.*

*There is no scope for distraction in such an environment.*

*- S. Bhavani, Coordinator, Primary*

# SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCER! A LOVING GRANDPARENT!

## *A Unique Relationship!*

A Relationship that Team Sprouts honours!

Beautiful moments were created as Grandparents Day was celebrated with much enthusiasm and laughter with activities that delighted the heart!

We are delighted to revive happy memories of a treasured event with a few pictures!!



## *Celebrations in the Toddler & Primary Environments!*



*“For they are the first to enquire about our well being – Ammachi did you have your food? Are you ill? Do you need to go to the doctor?” Life is a blessing with grandchildren. Thanks to Smita Ma’am for establishing Sprout Montessori and for making our lives easy.”*

*- Grandmother of Samarth, Primary 1*

## *Thoughts of a Teacher:*

*A Teacher is a Beautiful Human who brings the change in a child by stepping into the child’s shoes.*

*- Ranjita, Directress, Lower Elementary*

## *Who is a Grandparent?*

A Hugger, A Kisser,  
A Grandchild Misser!  
A Laugher, A Crafter,  
A Fun Looker-After!

A Carer, A Sharer,  
A Sometimes Gray-hairer!  
A Texter, A Telephoner!  
A School Gate Collector!



# SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCER! A LOVING GRANDPARENT!

**A Teacher should be a person who helps a child sow the seeds of knowledge and virtue.**

**- Sujatha M, Directress, Lower Elementary**

## *Celebrations....Reflections on Grandparents Day!*



*He never seems to run out of questions and I love that I'm able to answer them for him! – Grandfather of Advait (Primary 5)*

### *A Directress Muses:*

*I feel being a teacher gives me the responsibility to inculcate social awareness, respect for fellow people. As an individual, I also feel that we are responsible for the well-being of the next generation.*

*- Poorani, Toddler Directress*

*Substantial portion of his abilities, knowledge and discipline is all groomed by the fantastic team of teachers in Sprouts.*

*- Grandfather of Prahlad (Primary 1)*



*"I find being a father was much easier. Being the grandfather is challenging and it demands patience and listening skills. Thanks to Sprouts Montessori for educating us on how to handle children as individuals and pay attention to every question they ask. Because Children, as a rule, are curious and want to understand everything about how the world works."*

*– Grandfather of Sampoorna (Primary 2)*

# SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCER! A LOVING GRANDPARENT!

*The pictures speak a language! Expressions and Comments from Grandparents speak the same!! Unconditional Love! What a Relationship!*



I have been strict with my daughter but I can never be the same with my granddaughter  
- **Grandfather of Aarna** (Primary 4)



He is able to correct my grammar! I am truly amazed at how fast children grow up!  
- **Grandfather of Anirvan** (Primary 4)



She lights up my world! – **Grandmother of Sai Manisha** (Primary 5)



***A Teacher Reflects.....**  
To be a teacher means to acknowledge that teaching is a transformative process not only for the children but for us teachers as well. Fortunately, **THEY** teach me as much as I teach them. They teach me new ways of thinking, new perspectives and new views of the world and I deeply appreciate them for this.*

-  
**Saravana Deepa,**  
**Directress, Primary**



# SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCER! Like the Potter at the Wheel....the Teacher in a School.....!

*The Potter at the Wheel is... centring... sensing...  
intuiting.... Feeling... shaping... respecting...  
moulding... shifting...transforming...  
as does the Teacher!!!*

Our Directresses form the very core of Sprouts! It is they who observe the direction of a child and guide the flow of learning and growth in that direction! A great President of our country, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan desired that his birthday be a day of celebration of Teachers! Our teachers at Sprouts are a dedicated, strong, creative, empathetic, observant, sensitive, spirited, enthusiastic team who observe, plan, guide, allow, nurture, foster the growth of the children under their care! Teachers Day witnessed a myriad happenings in Sprouts from debates to reflections, smiles and laughter and a trip to Space and the Stars at the movies!!!

**Sprouts Team! – Stars that shine from Within!!**



*Happy Teachers day to all the Kind Hearts!....I believe only the Kindest of the Lot  
make Teachers! You are Awesome!  
– Straight from the Heart! - Tripura, Directress, Toddler and Parent*



# SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCER! Like the Potter at the Wheel....the Teacher in a school.....!

*Smiles and Laughter! Reflective Thoughts!  
A Happy Day! Teachers Day!!  
The Sprouts Team That ROCKS!  
Together... Working Wonders!*



*I always thought I would never be able to relate to children. That was a good ten years ago! Today teaching is my everything! Teaching has helped me evolve on various levels. I have learnt so many things from my children!*

*I have been able to understand their minds which in turn has helped me understand myself. It may seem like I am the teacher and they, my students, Actually it is a two way learning where we learn, evolve and grow together and that I treasure the most.*

*- Isha Antony, Directress, EA*

*Being a new teacher is incredibly overwhelming, like a crazy, stressful, exciting time! I don't think one can be an effective long term teacher without feeling the whole range of emotions. Pride in student achievement, relief in completing a major task, happiness in fantastic interaction with children every day. - Mehzabin, Directress, Primary / Parent*

## Self Portraits by the Lower Elementary!!



# CELEBRATIONS!

## - Joyful Impressions!

*Imagination does not become great until human beings, given the courage and strength, use it to create.*

*Dr. Montessori*

### Toddler & Primary Environments!

Celebrations are expressions of Joy, Happiness and Gratitude. They enable a continuation of traditions and customs.

*Every celebration in Sprouts allows a child to experience in full what it is all about whether it be singing, or arranging flower petals in a pattern, or bringing a toy to find a spot on a step for 'Golu'.*

These celebrations leave their own impressions on the children, from where they explore their creativity. These have been Delightful occasions this year and we revisit those Beautiful and Vibrant Celebrations with a few pictures!



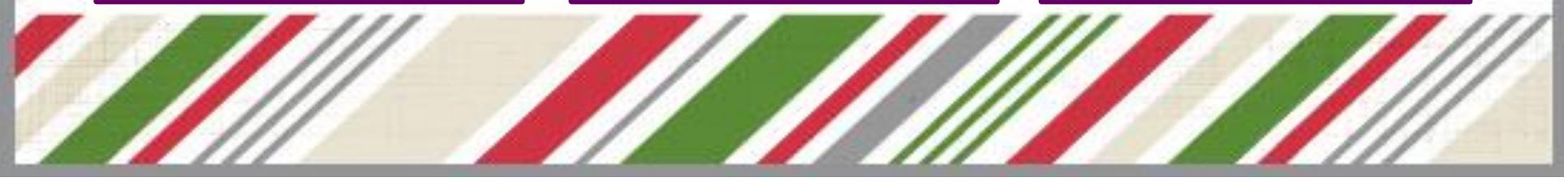
# CELEBRATIONS!

## - Joyful Impressions!



*Exuberant! Effervescent! Exciting!  
Energising!  
The Last day of Term 1 witnessed an  
explosion of the Celebration of  
Navratri across all environments!  
The pictures radiate the  
experiences!!*

*What a day!!*



# SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS!

## *A BUDDING SCIENTIST IN THE MAKING!*



Aushadhan of Upper Elementary participated in the  
**“Young Scientist”**  
competition on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**The Topic:** Plant Chromatography

**The Task :** Use minimum solvents on flowers and leaves to bring out maximum colours

*Aushadhan’s Team was presented with a Participation Certificate!*

*Teaching is a very noble profession that shapes the character, calibre and future of an individual. A Good Teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination and instil a love of learning.*

*- Supriya, Directress, Toddler Environment*

### **From the Parent:**

*“A Sprouts initiative in 2014 to take part in the Terry Fox Run, a 6km walk/run in support of cancer research, made a deep impression on Guhan, (Upper Elementary). His insistence that the family participates in this run every year has taken on an even deeper significance, in memory of our dear ones lost to cancer. In 2018, Guhan’s sister, Maitreyi participated in the walk as well!”*

*“Here's hoping that we can continue this tradition that Smita Ma'am got us started on in 2014!”*



### **Footnote from the desk:**

*This sharing only highlights the role a school plays in providing every opportunity and platform to create an impression that eventually becomes an imprint.*

# THE REGULAR LEARNING!!

*The instructions of the teacher consist then merely in a hint, a touch – enough to give a start to the child. The rest develops itself.*

*– Dr. Montessori*

The quote by Dr. Montessori is reflected in A DAY OF LEARNING in Sprouts, whether in school or on a visit from school!  
The children learn by doing...and exploring...the teacher is the guide.



Explorations in  
the Toddler  
and Primary  
Environments!!



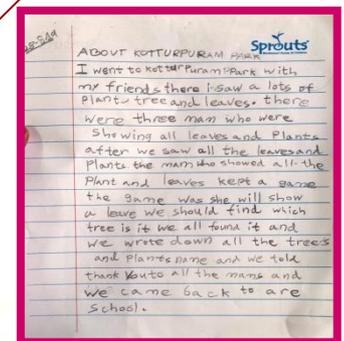
A busy day at the Farm!



A Visit to the Tree Park in Kotturpuram is reflected in a written piece of work by a student! Observation, retention and recall abilities at work!!

***“What the hand does the mind remembers – Dr. Montessori”***  
*This quote has made an impact on me. It sums up the essence of how education should be. Children should be able to practice what is taught...there has to be a connect between the textbook and reality. Only then will students be able to put education to good use. For example, during the farm visits, students get first-hand experience in ploughing, milking, preparing seeds, compost etc. They even get to experience sale of the farm produce at the market.*

*- Isha Anthony, Early Adolescence*



# WOW MOMENTS....that DELIGHT the heart!!

*In my personal experience, every day is a new learning for me. Being around with the children makes me feel cheerful and in high spirits! On a strictly professional level, the education you attain to become a teacher opens your eyes to many things you may never have been exposed to before.*  
- Geetha Venkat , Upper Elementary

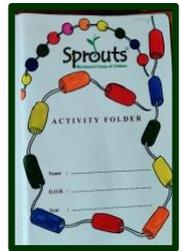


Uthra was so fascinated by the tracing of Geometrical Cabinet that she went home to explore the shapes she could find at home. She was seen tracing the bangle many times at home and this made her mother ponder about what she was doing . When we explained the activity during our workshop she understood the activity of tracing and was very pleased that Uthra was able to apply what she learnt at school back at home.



While working with the Geometrical Solids, Raahithya was quick to notice that the cone when rolled on the floor made a circular pattern. this further kindled his curiosity to find out the path made by other objects as well. He realised that the sphere forms a straight line when rolled on the floor and that the ovoid and ellipsoid just wobble!!

***A Different Kind of Delight!***  
Observing the interests of children and depicting the same through simple yet vibrant decorations on their folders!  
***Kudos to the Toddler Team!***



## Self Portraits by the Lower Elementary!!



# THE TEAM

Smita Vishweshwar

Isha Antony

Adah Ramona

Bhuvaneswari Murali

Tripura Gurajada

Sujatha Jaishankar

Geetha Venkat

Sarini Subramanian

S. Gayathri

Preethi Bharath