

# # @SEL

Synergising the 'SHRI' Perspective

## Bettering Our Best

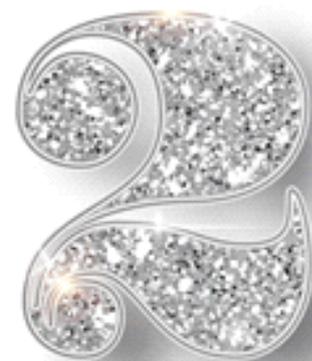
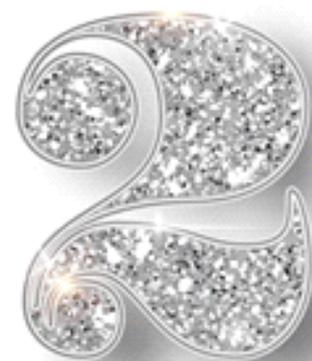


*"The goal is not to be better than the other man, but your previous self" -  
Dalai Lama*



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## Dear Readers,

Namaste and Greetings of the Season! May this new year be a better version of the one that has gone by.

It has been quite an eventful year for many of us and our schools. Awards and accolades galore, achievements - both academic and non-academic, in-house and external professional development sessions, and so on.

Our previous issues of the newsletter have been compiling these stories and keeping us all connected, across cities and states. We thank each of you for your contribution and appreciation and are grateful for the feedback we have received from you from time to time.

As always, it is now time to reflect on the year gone by and work towards a better and more fruitful and meaningful year ahead.

In keeping with this, the latest issue of **#@SHRI**, the SEL Newsletter shares how each one of us plans to better our best in 2020. Hence, we are calling this issue "Bettering Our Best", an often used mantra by all of us at SEL.

Also, in this issue, are detailed reports on the two Conclaves held by SEL. For those of you who could not attend them this will give you glimpses into "Mastering Elementary Magic" and "STEAM 2019"

Introducing from this issue are two other special sections, one that will highlight a few Common English Errors that are frequently made in our written and spoken communications. The other discusses internet etiquette – Netiquette. In case you have points that you would like to contribute for these two sections please write to us at our email IDs.

Hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we enjoyed putting it together!

Happy Reading!

## BETTERING OUR SPOKEN AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

**Starting this issue, we are introducing a new segment on Common English Errors. These are errors we have noticed in many daily communications, both spoken and written. Let's hope this new initiative helps us avoid these errors in future.**

### 1) INCORRECT USAGE:

**Incorrect usage:** "I and my friend went for a movie."

**Correct usage:** "My friend and I went for a movie."

Courtesy demands that one refers to oneself at the end (last) in the list of people one covers.

Therefore, it sounds rather precocious, egoistic and discourteous to begin by referring to oneself, though it is not grammatically incorrect in the basic sense of language use.

### 3) STATIONERY VS STATIONARY:

**(Note that one is spelt with an 'e' while the other is spelt with an 'a')**

**Stationery** (with an 'e') is used as a noun and is defined as writing materials and office supplies, writing paper and envelopes.

The word stationery comes from the word 'stationer', an archaic word to refer to a bookseller or publisher.

**Stationary** (with an 'a') is used as an adjective and is defined as not moving; not capable of being moved, fixed. The word stationary comes from the Medieval Latin word 'stationarius', meaning belonging to a military station. Something (or someone) that was stationary became something that maintained its station.

### 2) COMPLEMENT VS COMPLIMENT:

**(Note that one is spelt with an 'i' while the other is spelt with an 'e')**

The noun form of **compliment** (with an 'i') means "an expression of praise, commendation, or admiration," and the verb means, "to praise or express admiration for someone." "I received many compliments for my good work."

The term **complement** (with an 'e') is derived from the Latin word 'complementum', meaning "something that completes." So, that means if something complements something else, it completes it, enhances it, or makes it perfect.

"This Colour complements the layout and design"

## 1. Use Subject Lines Properly

Most of us suffer from information overload and we use subject lines to scan and evaluate the content of an email. If you want the recipient to open and read your message, use a relevant and descriptive subject line that adequately describes the content of your message. Single keywords don't work, but something like 'need help with setting up email filtering in Outlook' gives a good idea what the request may be about.

## NETIQUETTE

Netiquette is short for Internet Etiquette, a code of good behaviour on the internet, just like etiquette is a code for polite social behaviour. Netiquette is simply about respecting others on the cyberspace during online interactions.

## NETIQUETTE



## INTERNET ETIQUETTE

### Check and Respond to emails promptly

- Always have the courtesy to reply to mails within a reasonable amount of time. Ideally within 24 hours for sure. If you are unable to respond with answers to queries, inform the sender and request for more time. Never ignore a mail completely, nothing could be ruder than that!

### Spell Check and Proof Read

Proof reading is something that helps you notice missing words, bad grammar or typos that change the meaning of a word and are thus not caught by your spell checker, e.g. use vs. sue, or missing punctuation, which can change the meaning of an entire sentence, e.g. "Let's eat, Mom." vs. "Let's eat Mom." 😊

Above all, a well written message with proper spelling and punctuation is a pleasure to read.

### Do Not Shout!

Typing in all CAPITALS or UPPER CASE letters, is the written equivalent of yelling or shouting. Obviously, shouting at someone is very rude. So please turn off the CAPS LOCK when communicating in writing. If for some reason you cannot turn it off, do mention it to avoid misunderstandings and hurt feelings.

## 2. Be Brief

Once the recipient of your message decides to open and read your mail, what they find then is a single paragraph of a thousand words, which, in the worst of cases, lacks punctuation. Frustration! 😞

Again, you can make it easy for people to scan your message and quickly reply. Use short sentences. Pack them into short paragraphs of no more than 5 sentences. Actually, try to keep your message as brief as 5 short sentences – and please stay on topic!

### Respect Other People's Time

- Post messages only to those relevant to the discussion group. When appropriate, use individual email IDs instead of posting to the whole group. Especially while sending birthday, anniversary or congratulations messages/wishes, refrain from clicking "Reply All".

### Extinguish Flame Wars

- Flaming is when people express their annoyance on a subject without controlling their personal emotions. Flame Wars are where two or more people exchange angry and explicit posts. These must be controlled before it escalates to compromise the integrity of the group you are in. Don't feed the flames, extinguish them by guiding the discussion back to a more productive direction.

# BETTERING OUR

*Best*

**Sudha Rajamohan:**

I will walk at least 40,000 steps a week, incrementing each month by 5%

**Sunny Chauhan:**

I will try to spend more time with my family

**Sunita Arora:**

I will take a conscious call to reduce my screen time on the phone

**Anubhav Singla:**

I will start living an active life and watch what I eat

**Vikash Kumar:**

I will learn scuba diving with my son

**Ishita Sanyal:**

I will exercise regularly

**Neethi Srikumar:**

I will learn a new language-BRAILLE

**Pulkit Seth:**

I will maintain a good balance between work and family life.

**Himanshu Jain:**

I will learn a new skill

**Rishi Ram:**

I will improve my diet

**Ritu Mehta:**

I will spend quality time with my family

**Anil Kumar:**

मैं स्वच्छ जिन्दगी जीने की कोशिश करूँगा

# BETTERING OUR

*Best*



**Parmeshwar Mishra:**

I will reduce paper usage

**Surbhi Yadav:**

I will devote more time towards the expansion of 'The Women's Hygiene Project'

**Naveed Zaheer:**

I will ensure the time I spend with my family is 'quality time'

**Sudipta Mukherji:**

I will carve out more 'Me Time'

**Tarana Ahmad:**

I will find and practise methods of calming the mind

**Rachna Trehan:**

I will be more adventurous and take part in activities outside my comfort zone

**Sanjoy Dutta:**

I will find a good balance between work and play

**Saurav Srivastava:**

I will read more

**Amit Rajhans:**

I will plan a visit to Kaziranga National Park with my close friends

**Sudha Santhanam:**

I will not allow myself to be shortchanged by anyone

**Pramod Aswal:**

I will strive towards 'Excellence', one of our core values

**Keshav Prasad:**

मैं अपने परिवार के साथ अकसर मन्दिर जाया करूँगा

# BETTERING OUR

*Best*



**Rajeev Kumar:**

Committed to stay healthy and happy

**Neeta Narain:**

Consciously committing to lifestyle changes

**Deepti Srivastava:**

I shall continue to do whatever appeals to me throughout the year

**Antara McNamara:**

I shall devote more time to my son

**Komal Dua:**

2020 में अपने परिवार एवं प्रियजनों के लिए स्वयं भोजन पकाऊँगी

**Shaveta Bhagria:**

I shall devote more time to my daughter

**Vijender Singh:**

Follow the SEL value – Customer First

**Madan Bani:**

I will give my family more quality time

**Yogesh Das:**

I would complete my CA course this year

**Laxmi Teotia:**

I shall devote more time to my son and family

**Bipesh Singh:**

Do all my work diligently and sincerely

**Hari Haran:**

I will continue to be true to myself

**Amit Bhagria:**

I will focus more on practicing yoga

**Nishigandha Date:**

Committed to stay fit and healthy

**Parul Srivastava:**

I would like to nurture all my relationships and find a connect with anyone I interact with

**Namrata Doodani:**

I will refine at least a few processes in personal as well as official fronts

**Sapna Yadav:**

I will not let the narrowness of my mind define the capabilities of others for they are more capable than I can imagine

**Sumana Ray:**

I will exercise regularly to stay fit



# MASTERING ELEMENTARY MAGIC - A REPORT

## SEL's First Elementary & Preschool Conclave

### THE ELE - MAGIC TEAM



If **E**xploration, **E**xperiencing, **E**xperimentation and **E**njoying are the main ways in which children learn, then what we as Educators need to do is to provide an environment and platform to our little ones to be able to do so.

At Shri Educare Limited (SEL) we agree with the quote that “Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write and count. Childhood is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace which is right for each individual child.” If our Shri Educators achieve mastery over both the curriculum and pedagogy of the Early Years Programme, and they are equipped with the key skills required to transact the same in the learning spaces at schools, then the four “E’s” mentioned above would become a part of the learning journey that our little children have embarked upon.

In keeping with this belief, SEL organised its First Early Years Conclave – “**Mastering Elementary Magic**” from 21st to 23rd November at Gurugram. Our venue partners were TSMS Gurugram, TSRS Aravali and TSEY Sohna Road.

The Conclave was inaugurated by Ms. Uttara Singh, Director, The Shriram Millennium Schools, Noida, Faridabad and Gurugram, along with Ms. Anuradha Gupta, Principal, TSMS Gurugram and Ms. Alpa Verma, Vice Principal, TSMS Gurugram.

#### The Purpose of the Early Years Conclave was to:

- ☑ understand, highlight and discuss all aspects that influence early learning in various dimensions
- ☑ provide support in enhancing the Shri Pedagogy
- ☑ help create a platform to share challenges, deliberate, discuss and ponder over plausible solutions
- ☑ establish dialogue among all partner schools with a common mission of equipping educators with knowledge and skills required to make learning an enriching experience
- ☑ carry home learnings and new initiatives so that they may be rolled out in their respective schools

#### Highlights of Early Years Conclave were:

- ☑ Interactions and learnings from sessions conducted by
  - **Ms. Manika Sharma – Director**, The Shri Ram Schools, held everyone spellbound with her vast repertoire of examples and anecdotes from her long and rich experience at TSRS. The true **Master Magician of TSRS**, she inspired every educator with the simplicity of her message that they were the ones who laid the foundation to every child’s success and hence the “Magic” they wield is truly a powerful one.

- The session by the **Queen of Circle Time**, as she is referred to, **Ms. Amrinder Kaur**, Vice Principal, TSRS – A (Jr.) captured the “Magic” of this powerful tool and gave the educators gathered an insight into how children can be empowered to speak with honesty, courage and conviction, deal with conflict and also make the right choices and decisions. She also highlighted the importance of instilling in children through simple Circle Time activities a sense of responsibility, sensitivity and discipline.
  - **“Cornerstones of an Elementary Classroom”**, a session by **Ms. Sapna Dimri** – Principal TSRS -A (Jr.), **Ms. Sonia Chibb** – Vice Principal TSRS -VV (Jr.), provided the delegates with glimpses, through hands on activities and role plays, what happens on a typical day in an Elementary classroom at a SHRI School. The rhymes and stories they narrated with full vigour enthralled their audience and left everyone asking for more.
  - **Probably a first in the area of Early Learning Years**, the curriculum for STEAM was presented through a session by **Ms. Tarana Ahmad** of SEL. The session titled **“Full Steam Ahead”** took everyone by surprise as subjects like technology and engineering have until now been considered subjects for older children only. Downsizing the concepts to suit the tiny early learners and making it relevant and meaningful was a year long task, which culminated in the collating, curating and compiling of a dynamic STEAM Curriculum for learners as young as just 2 years of age!
  - **“BOB, The Builder”**, by **Ms. Sunita Arora**, Principal, TSEY Sohna Road equipped the delegates with the skills, knowledge and understanding of the objectives, process and implementation of various Signature Events at SHRI Schools. Backward and Forward Planning, organising and assigning duties based on core competencies of team members and working both individually and in a group were the hands on activities that helped give them clarity on how to organise and execute a glitch-free and seamless event, that is remembered for its simplicity and child centric approach.
- ☑ A Story Telling Session by **Ms. Rituparna Ghosh** from Your Story Bag titled **“Tickle Your Story Bones”** helped delegates understand the importance of story telling in an Early Years Programme, strategies and techniques to use during storytelling, effective use of props and aids, etc. She kept her audience enraptured with her own rendition and narration of a few stories.
  - ☑ A Panel Discussion on **“How Much is Too Much”**, where the esteemed panellists discussed how educators need to create a balance between 4 main aspects which are crucial during the early learning years was a very well appreciated session. It gave the delegates clarity on how to create an optimal balance in these 4 main areas of early years schooling.

**Ms. Gunjan Bijlani** spoke about how screen time could cause an imbalance in the hormones that could result in various psychosomatic issues in very young children. The “Dopamine” effect caused by too much screen time could endanger the entire “wiring” in the brain causing long term damage, she said. Engaging children using other sensorial medium would help balance this and reduce addiction in children, was her valuable advice to the delegates.



**Ms. Bhagya Laxmi Balaji**, 3EP, SRF Foundation, spoke to the educators about the need to create a balance between academic work and activities and how both could be integrated to ensure that neither rote learning nor meaningless games and activities take on a supreme role in a classroom. She urged them to understand the direction the transaction in a class takes is based on the learner and not the teacher. Differentiation in methodology and activities, she said, would ensure that every child in the classroom benefits from the transaction and that learning is an active, and not passive, exercise.

**Ms. Anuradha Gupta**, Principal, The Shriram Millennium School, Gurugram, urged the educators to strike a balance between how much of parent suggestions and inputs need to be incorporated into their working and planning. While it is important to listen and understand what each parent is suggesting, educators must not forget that there are certain non-negotiables that are intrinsic to the ethos and philosophy of the school. As long as these non-negotiables are not breached, parent feedback, suggestions and inputs are most welcome, she said. The most important thing for a teacher to be able to deal with this, she highlighted, was the need to establish rapport with parents and earn their respect and trust. Working towards gaining this will empower the educators further and make the journey along with child and parent a wonderful one.

**Ms. Sunita Arora**, Principal, The Shri Ram Early Years, Sohna Road, focussed on the importance of “ME TIME” for children. Balancing the day’s routine such that it does not become a series of meaningless and rushed list of “Things to Do” is what Early Years Educators need to master. It is important to give children both space and time to be themselves, and hence the importance of Free Play and Choice Time in the daily routine at school. For a little one to develop a unique “self” it is important to give each child time to just “be” that self!

The Conclave concluded with the launch of SEL’s first in-house publication “SHRI Parvarish – The Art of Parenting from the Heart.”



**Inauguration**



**Circle Time**



**BOB The Builder**



**Rituparna Ghosh**

Other activities and sessions included sharing of Best Practices, Presentations by Groups based on BOB - The Builder and School Tours at all three campuses.

15 SEL School participated and all 47 participants returned with a treasure chest of learnings and strategies that can be effectively implemented back home. These budding Magicians, under the guidance and support of their SEL Mentors will now go forth and spread the seeds of Magic in their own classrooms, making learning an exciting and adventurous journey for their little ones.



**Master Magician of TSRS**



**Cornerstones of an Elementary Classroom**



**Full STEAM Ahead!**



# ➤ The Buzz - SHRICONNECT UPDATES



**AMIT RAJHANS**

“Technology will not replace great teachers. But technology in the hands of great teachers can be transformational.” – George Couros

In keeping with this thought, SEL’s School ERP “ShriConnect” helps schools in enhancing the nature of connection amongst teachers, parents and students. It caters to the school’s administrative and academic need, right from admissions, attendance, fee collection, student performance, school calendar and holidays, events, school timings, Transport details, to name a few. The vast repertoire of modules on ShriConnect includes new ones such as the Mobile App for Staff, Question Bank, and a completely revamped Parent Portal & ShriConnect Portal.

We are delighted to announce that we have upgraded our existing ShriConnect with new features such as:

## **Online Admission Module:**

Here is how this module will help automate the entire admission process.

- ☑ School can generate the lead online/offline for any general enquiry related to admission and they can follow-up any enquiry
- ☑ Multiple year online admission can be opened parallelly
- ☑ Online/offline registration charges capturing facility has been introduced
- ☑ General enquiry and lead management system, Enquiry follow-up tracking, MIS for enquiry to admission conversion has been activated
- ☑ Student concession incorporated before offer letter generation
- ☑ Offer letter trigger to parent through mail has been made possible
- ☑ Option for new parents to pay fee online with a link has been created

This module has been successfully implemented at The Shriram Millennium Schools - Noida/Faridabad/ Gurugram, Chiyasuddin International School, Maldives and The Shri Ram Universal School, Hyderabad.

## **Mobile App Notification System**

1. For every circular, homework and academic resource that has been uploaded, the parent gets a notification on the Parent Mobile app
2. From Teacher Mobile App class teachers can send the notification to students mapped with the class.

## **Exam Module**

1. Provision for creating a remarks bank based on Subject and Subject Aspects.
2. Option provided to put the mark entry cutoff date based on Subject
3. Single screen provided to enter all the marks mapped with the terms.
4. Define Subject setup based on forms



**NAVEED ZAHEER**

## Essential Channels for an Effective School Marketing and Engagement Plan

Shri Educare collaborates with all its partner schools to provide advisory services to deliver a meaningful and an engaging dynamic curriculum incorporating lesson plans, activities, projects and hands on learning that cater to all levels of thinking skills. Today, our schools are doing great in extending these child-centric innovative methods of imparting value-based education and fostering holistic development of the students.

It is equally important for our schools to communicate and share these effectively with our parents, who are important as one of the key stakeholders in our belief of following a “three way handshake” – comprising of the students, the teachers and the parent community.

So, let's see what the important channels that our schools must engage to effectively communicate with the parent are:

**School Website:** It is the cornerstone and the most important feature that provides a platform for the school to highlight what makes the school unique and communicate the relevant stories with existing and potential parents. Websites are the main source of information about the schools and provide an opportunity to share the school mission, culture, programs, your team and, most importantly, your stories. So not only is the school website the center of your online presence, it is also your main communications hub and hence should contain all relatable information for easy access.

**Social Media:** Once a healthy website is in place, the next important channel of successful school marketing is Social Media. It is a great way to genuinely connect to your audience and if used correctly, social media leverages the parental trust by positively confirming that parents have made an excellent choice enrolling their child in your school. When marketing your school, social media also encourages school-parent relationships by opening a window into the campus and classrooms and showing the great things that are happening in the school.

**Events:** School events form an integral part of the school activities and ensure holistic development of the students in our schools. Our events are mostly student-led or parent-led, thus helping schools to create an open environment where the key stakeholders are engaged in the most effective way. The school culture and values form the basis for these events and are pivotal in showcasing the underlying belief of our schools – ‘Igniting Curiosity, Nurturing Creativity’.

**Strategic Communications Plan:** A strategic communications plan is the keystone to school marketing. It is the central element that locks everything else together, including the school website, social media and school events. In fact, the strategic communication plan is what organises your efforts on website, social media and events to work together to support the core cause of imparting value-based education and fostering holistic development of the students in the school throughout the year.

These channels will not only help you transition throughout the year from one focus to the next, but also bring all your efforts together to strengthen the school brand and bring consistency in the messaging, which would further improve the positioning and public relations. Having an effective school website, social media, school events and strategic communications plan in place would enable your school marketing to create consistency in communication, helping to reduce confusion and eventually establish a good branding for the school.



**ANUBHAV SINGLA**

## Good Governance – The School Perspective

When was the last you came across the term “Good Governance”? Was it in a political interview where some activities undertaken by a government were exemplified to define this term? Or was it in a corporate setting wherein Good Governance was explained as a leadership technique through which inclusive accountable equitable business conduct is aimed at benefitting various stakeholders of the society at large?

While the above may be the most common parlance for usage of this golden term, Good Governance has its relevance and importance in every public platform, more so for our Schools, where little humans are shaped for an exemplary lifestyle, by stepping up lives of self and others from mere survival to flourishing civilisation.

The United Nations has identified a few **characteristics/ principles/ factors** of Good Governance to explain the essence of it, which also make sense for Schools, bring the first places to imbibe social skills:

1. **Participation of all stakeholders** in the policy decisions, either directly or through guardians/ representatives to ensure that policies are well received, and there is scope for feedback to bring in changes and continuous improvement. This manifests as a strong culture having freedom of association and expression.

Further, when our Schools engage parents through numerous initiatives such as workshops, trainings and guide them on how to inculcate reading habits in their tiny tots, the efforts to enable **Inclusiveness** suggest empowerment among parents so that they perceive the environment as more safe for their children, just like the citizens of a country do when their leaders actually act like they promised on ground.

2. **Rule of Law** in terms of a school environment aims at equitable treatment of all students, without having regard to any individual traits except for merit, which shall prevail. This exemplifies impartial systems and builds confidence among the children.
3. Further to the Participation factor, **Transparency** aims at achieving understanding by the concerned, of the background and necessity of every activity being undertaken at the school.

For example, our Schools, in their endeavour to make the best use of technology across their operations, have inducted **ShriConnect** – an educational ERP software, in their everyday activities in such a manner that the parents have a clear picture of how their wards are doing and, inter-alia, the communication of various updates from school reaches parents in real time for continuous visibility and attaining **Responsiveness**.

4. Our Schools use very keenly curated curriculum for each age group, which serves the diversified needs of students coming from different backgrounds, skill sets, pace of understanding and learning needs, which in turn showcases the **Consensus Oriented** approach aiming to develop sensitivity towards historical, cultural and social context of the community.
5. **Effectiveness and Efficiency** is developed through the sustainable use of resources to meet the needs of a society. Sustainability refers to both ensuring social investments carry through and natural resources are maintained for future generations.
6. Last but the most important part of Good Governance is being **Accountable** for your actions. To the beneficiaries, commoners and to each other. As a school, it is considered imperative to build around the prescribed boards’ guidelines and abide by in spirit, to follow the international best practices from global counterparts and ultimately to own the actions taken and the results delivered.

At our schools, we believe that teaching is not just one-way traffic where classes are held and lectures are delivered in a manner schools decide in seclusion, but it’s a collaboration wherein we move hand in hand with various stakeholders such as government, educational regulatory bodies, global counterparts, parents and the innocent future of the nation, to shape it up well as a responsible society that takes up its duties not as a forced legal obligation but with the desire to reap the benefits of Good Governance.

# In The Spotlight

## SHRI MAHOTSAV @ TSUS PANCHKULA

The Shri Ram Universal School- Panchkula celebrated the first edition of its annual colossal event “SHRI MAHOTSAV” with enthusiasm, zeal, fun and frolic on Saturday, 7 Dec 2019 at their School campus.



A Senior Army Officer from Chandimadir Military station was the Chief Guest along with other dignitaries.

The function started with the traditional lighting of the lamp followed by invocation of the blessings of Lord Nataraja using dance forms presented by the energetic students of classes II – V.

Shri Mahotsav was unveiled by our young peppy narrators who took the audience through the journey of the events in a conversational fashion. They highlighted the activities carried out in the School such as Nukkad Natak outlining the importance of saving and educating a girl child, Community Outreach Programme on water conservation through a mime, a musical display of Sports Drill and other performances which showcased the students’ high level of vigour, passion, talents and exhilaration. Robotic Dance by our tiny tots and the foot-tapping Bhangra won the heart of the audiences. The excellent communication skills, dance and music expertise and dramatic talents were a reflection of the effectiveness of the School curriculum.

The Principal, Mrs. Gurvinder Sohi, shared the School’s vision in providing holistic development of the students. She highlighted the importance of experiential and new-age educational approaches integrated in The Shri Ram Universal School in preparing students with a global perspective.

The Chief Guest applauded the endeavours of the students and extolled the staff in nurturing students with lifelong skills.



# In The Spotlight

## MATH OLYMPICS @ TSUS PALAVA

### A report of the Math Week celebrations at The Shri Ram Universal School, Palava

As Polish Mathematician Stephan Banach says, 'Mathematics is the most beautiful creation of the human spirit'

We, at TSUS Palava, firmly endorse this and hence we not only teach and apply Math skills, we also enjoy, appreciate and celebrate it.

Math Olympics was a school-wide event celebrated from 18th to 22nd Nov, wherein various activities, games, displays, quizzes and assemblies centered around Math were conducted.

There was a distinctive buzz and a flavour of Math all around- display boards carried interesting facts, puzzles and trivia. Students explored the Math Lab and were quite engrossed with blocks, shapes, manipulatives, fraction cards and more.

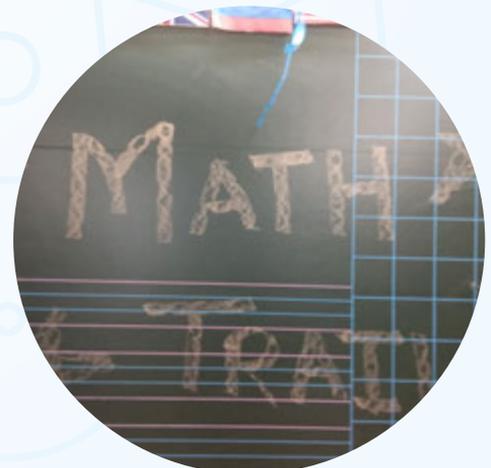
On day 3 and 4, the Math quiz was a great hit too as the four houses battled it out with full gusto. A special Math assembly featuring Math Rap, Symmetry in Mime and Poems on Math were presented as well. Students made models, performed Math activities and experiments too.

The Math Olympics culminated with a Math trail on 29th and 30th Nov, which was witnessed by parents, students and invited guests. Students exhibited their Math prowess by explaining concepts ranging from addition and subtraction to algebra, probability and sound frequency too.

Everyone who attended the trail was quite appreciative of the students and the way in which they impressed each and every guest with their knowledge.

All in all, Math-O-lympics was a great success, effectively removing any barriers or hindrances that may have been prevalent in the teaching and learning of Mathematics.

More power to Math!!



# In The Spotlight

## PARENT-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP AT ITS BEST

### 10<sup>th</sup> FOUNDER'S DAY @ TSMS - NOIDA

2019 has been a landmark year for The Shriram Millennium School, Noida as the school celebrated its 10th Founder's Day on 9th December, 2019 with a host of spectacular events organized through the month of December.

Turning 10, the entire school fraternity – the children, parents and the staff, celebrated a legacy and ethos of a child-centric pedagogy, excellence and innovation in education, and a well-deserved reputation of being a 'Happy' school, that the school has built and achieved in this decade long journey.



To celebrate this momentous occasion, the parent fraternity of the school, led by the PTA staged a mega production – Mughal-Azam.com – a modern take on the classic and much celebrated saga - Mughal-e-Azam on 13th and 14th December. Besides this unique parent initiative, the celebration of the school's Founder's Day on 9th December was a melting pot of



The musical extravaganza, replete with songs, dance, drama and action brought together talent of different kinds from among the school's parent community – on stage and behind it. The classic saga set in the modern era of technology, social media and dotcoms, was a laughter riot with foot-tapping music and many heart-warming moments. Sure to go down in the history of the school, this extraordinary initiative of the school's parent fraternity was aimed at raising funds for the Cancer Care NGO Cansupport, through the ticketed shows which were fully booked on both days.

emotions for the school community with nostalgia and jubilation rubbing shoulders at the Long Service Award ceremony organised to felicitate the school staff who have completed 5 years, 10 years and more of being a part of the Shri family. With the audience of students, parents and the families of recipients cheering and applauding the awardees and the heartwarming performances by the children, the revelry was indeed reverberating across the school. Ms. Uttara Singh, Director-Principal of the school, with immense pride stated, "Today is a realization of the shared dream and purpose of building an institution that focusses not just on

# In The Spotlight

## PARENT-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP AT ITS BEST

10<sup>th</sup> FOUNDER'S DAY @ TSMS - NOIDA



academic excellence, but is a place where our children and staff celebrate and revel in their uniqueness, in the freedom to be the best they can be, and embrace the responsibilities of torch bearers in the community and as global citizens.”

Thanking the parent community of the school for the spectacular and unheard of initiative, Ms. Singh added, “As a school, we strongly believe that to grow and excel, to be successful in all our endeavours, the 3-way handshake



between the school, parents and children must be strong, the communication open and positive, and most importantly, there should be an ecosystem of trust. And, these initiatives by school and parents are a manifestation of that culture we have been trying to build in the school over the years and will continue to do so.”

## STEAM CONCLAVE 2019 - A REPORT (12<sup>th</sup> TO 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019)

STEAM Conclave 2019 organised by Shri Educare Ltd for the facilitators of its partner schools was hosted at The Shriram Millennium School, Gurugram from 12th to 15th December 2019.

In the opening talk Ms. Manisha Malhotra, Principal of The Shri Ram School, Moulisari, shared the relevance of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math acronymed as 'STEAM' in 21st century learning, giving an insight into the need to inculcate a spirit of inquiry, innovation and creativity amongst the learners.



The special guest of the day was Mr. Sonam Wangchuk, an Indian engineer, innovator and education reformist who is the founder of **SECMOL - The Students' Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh**, an alternative school which aims to make education meaningful, fun and practical for the students of the region. In his keynote address he shared his passionate stories of sustainable living using natural resources such as wind, water and the sun, to generate power. The audience were enthralled and enriched with his innovative idea of preserving winter water by freezing it into what he calls "Ice Stupas" and using them for irrigation during the dry summer months.

After a day full of happy moments with students and teachers at The Shriram Millennium School, Mr. Sonam Wangchuk left behind new thoughts of action towards making the earth a happy place by pledging towards the 'live simply' campaign. It took no time for all in the audience to be convinced to support Mr. Wangchuk on his Global movement **#livesimply**, which he kicked off with support from UN on the 15th of December at the Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi.



Following next, a session on Design Thinking by Anurag Tiwari from Robo Species, took the teachers through a five-step process - empathise, define, ideate, prototype and test to find solutions to real life problems. In the Do It Yourself (DIY) sessions facilitated by the subject experts of SEL, teachers got a hands-on experience and demo of various technological tools such as 3D pen, clay animation, Makey-Makey, paper circuits etc. The hall resounded with the joy of learning and the active participants took to new learning with great enthusiasm.

**"Learning never exhausts the mind."** Leonardo da Vinci. So truly said, the physical exhaustion of the day did not tire the team as the learning kept them going.

The second day of the STEAM Conclave was initiated with a POP quiz on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics, where the enthusiastic participants took away lovely prizes for their prompt responses. Teachers visited the gallery of exhibits and projects using the technological tools introduced the previous day.



Our world is a beautiful, complex and intricate tapestry of learning, all in its own right. Why do we believe that we have the ability or the right to box it in behind brick walls and classroom doors in a place called school? The projects displayed in the gallery gave this conviction to the teachers as they eagerly studied the projects on display and explored the manuals to understand the underlying

## STEAM CONCLAVE 2019 - A REPORT (12<sup>th</sup> TO 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019)

principles and designs. Soon the hall became live with the delegates progressing from declaring their projects to designing and displaying their prototypes with the support of the experts.

The third session of the day was full of enthusiasm, wherein the groups presented their working prototypes. What sounded quite lofty on day one, started taking shape. Teachers picked ideas on 'Save the World with STEAM', starting it with their projects. All concluded that saving the world could start with inspiring kids to ask questions and to think creatively. It doesn't have to be hard to incorporate STEAM in your world. It's all around you! And here's a great way to get started.

Post lunch, the delegates gained knowledge on Artificial Intelligence and its impact on education from Prof. M. M. Pant - an evangelist and an expert in the field of AI. Sharing of Best Practices by the attending school groups was a highly enriching experience for all the attendees. The moderators of the session, Ms. Gurpreet Kaur and Prof. Pant motivated and applauded the schools for their presentations. The visit to Ambience Mall for shopping followed by a gala dinner hosted by the organisers, was much cherished by all.

"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." - Benjamin Franklin



On the third day, the delegates of the Conclave assembled at Delhi Public School, Sector 45, to visit the Atal Tinkering Lab. The session was led and guided by Mr Mufeed from SRF Foundation, and by Mr Anurag Tiwari and Mr Rishabh from Robo Species, who spoke to the delegates all about ATAL labs, it's application process and utilisation. The host school presented student projects on display, while the visitors browsed through the maker's space. Students proudly shared some of the recent projects they were working on, elaborated on the steps of arriving at the final prototype and shared their way forward towards patenting and achieving business viability.

Back at the venue of the Conclave, the second session of the third day was facilitated by Google for the launch of the CS First Curriculum. The enthusiastic teachers keenly browsed the Google pages of CS First and signed in to experience the teacher and student resources.

Overall the three-day conclave saw active participation from all delegates who shared their experiences during reflection time. The last session of the event was valedictory, which was graced by Mr. Himanshu Jain, CEO, Shri Educare Ltd. The Logo designed by the schools were presented and the school winning the best logo was felicitated with an award. Participation certificates were distributed, and the vote of thanks was delivered by Ms Ritu Mehta from SEL, who was the Convener for STEAM 2019. Participants also enjoyed the video 'Behind the Scenes' created by the inhouse Team STEAM.



The ICT teachers stayed back on the fourth day for a highly engaging session on Python Training by Ms. Gurpreet Kaur. The teachers connected with the subject expert to clear their doubts on the topic of the day and further explore its nuances to upgrade themselves.



**WELCOME  
MR. SONAM WANGCHUK**



**SESSION BY MR. PANT ON  
AI- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**



**PROTOTYPE DESIGNING BASED  
ON DIY SESSIONS**



**GALLERY WALK**



**'THANK YOU' CERTIFICATE GIVEN  
TO DPS, SECTOR 45**

**TEAM STEAM CONCLAVE 2019**



**SUDHA RAJAMOHAN**



**RITU MEHTA**



**RACHNA TREHAN**



**SHWETA BHAGRIA**



**ISHITA SANYAL**



**ANTRA MCNAMARA**



**SUDHA SANTHANAM**



**DEEPTI SRIVASTAVA**



Shri Educare Ltd.

# Welcome

**MR. ALI  
MUSTHAFA**  
PRINCIPAL GIS,  
MALE'

**MS. NISHIGANDHA  
DATE**  
ASSISTANT MANAGER -  
SAP

**Congratulations  
Nidhi, on a  
beautiful baby girl**

**The Launch of  
SEL's first book -  
Shri Parvarish**

**TSMS Noida  
celebrated its  
10th Founder's Day**

## Shri Cheers!

*Congratulations*  
**5**  
to the Long Service  
Awardees (5 Years):

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RAJHANS**  
Shri Educare  
Limited

**PRAMOD  
ASWAL**  
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Classes

**VEENA  
SHARMA**  
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Classes

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ATREY**  
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Early Years,  
Sohna  
Road

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PAHWA**  
The Shri Ram  
Early Years,  
Sohna  
Road

**SHWETA  
SUD**  
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Sohna  
Road



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