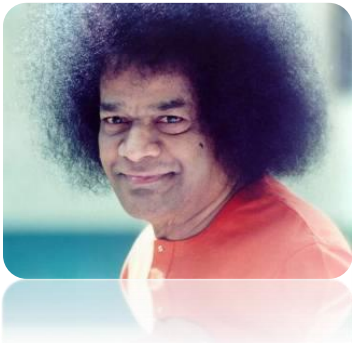




Sathya Sai School

Toronto, Canada

Parent Information Letter # 2 | Oct 30, 2021



Always respect
another's opinion and
another's point of
view.

~Sathya Sai Baba

Food Drive
EXTENDED TO NOV 5
Remembrance Day
(School open)
Nov 11
Switch In-
school/Online
Nov 15
Founder's Day
Celebration
Nov 22
Founder's Birthday
(No School)
Nov 23
Science Projects
Nov 29-DEC 3

Goal of Life 03



Parent Council 21-22 05



Toronto Police/Parent Patrol 06



Islamic Heritage Month 07



Curriculum Work 09



Yoga in Kindergarten 12



From the Principal's Desk*Revathi Chennabathni*

October 29, 2021

Dear Parents and Well-wishers of Sathya Sai School of Toronto – Canada,

A heartfelt thank you to all parents for your generous donation to the Harvest Food Bank! Please note that the food drive deadline has been extended until Friday, November 5, 2021.

Hope you all had a productive virtual parent-teacher interview on Friday Oct 29. November will be a busy month with activities for recognizing Remembrance Day, celebrating Sathya Sai Baba's 96th birthday and Science Fair projects in a hybrid format. This year we will do all three events; live streaming of Founder's birthday for all students – in-person, online as well as for all parents, grandparents, volunteers and community members, to facilitate watching from home. The next mega event will be our annual Year-End Concerts. We shall keep you posted of the format.

Our heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing parent council and executive members. We welcome all new parents as well as returning parents as Parent Council Representatives/Shadow Representatives for the school year 2021-2022. Congratulations to the newly (s)elected Parent Council Executive Members. We congratulate Mr. Manoj Panda, Mrs. Sheila Khambhla as Co-Chairs, Mr. Bhavesh Chauhan as the Treasurer, and Mrs. Khambhla as Secretary. We look forward to a year full of teamwork and new initiatives with the Executive, Grade Representatives and Shadow Representatives.

We wish you all a happy and prosperous Deepavali and New Year.

Sincerely,

Revathi Chennabathni

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Upcoming Events**Food Drive extended to: Nov 5**

Deadline for contributions extended one week.

Remembrance Day: Nov 11

School Open.

Deadline for Questionnaire: Nov 12

Parents to choose in-school or online learning.

Switch, In-school or Online: Nov 15

Switch date according to parent selection.

Founder's Day Celebration: Nov 22

Virtual celebration to honour Sathya Sai Baba.

Founder's Birthday: Nov 23

No School.

Science Projects due: Nov 29

Projects due in school, by video if online.

In-Class & Online: Nov 29-Dec 2

Science projects presented to class.

Science Fair: Dec 3

In-class displays.



The Goal of Life: Guidance from Sri Sathya Sai Baba

In these troubled times, it is important to keep ourselves grounded in truths that direct our lives to positive thinking and living. Below are some excerpts from Sri Sathya Sai Baba's teachings, reminding us of the goal of life and the means to achieve it and peace in the present era.

Sathya Sai Baba, Prasanthi Nilayam, Discourse 16 March 2010

"All are the embodiments of God. So, the answer to the question, 'Where is God?' is, 'God is everywhere.'

The Spirit that is present in you in the form of consciousness is present in all. You cannot say that consciousness is here and not there; it is everywhere.

God is omnipresent. There is no need to search for God, who is present everywhere, in all, at all places. Therefore, it is very easy to know God. Try to understand that everything in the universe is permeated by God.

The objective of all your education is to experience God, who is present everywhere and in every being. To attain this ideal should be the goal of your life.

Close your eyes and contemplate on the form of God that you like. On whatever form of God you contemplate upon, God will manifest before you in that very form. Never think that God is somewhere at a distant place or that He is present only at one particular place and not at another. He is present everywhere and permeates every atom of the universe."

Sathya Sai Baba, Discourse, Poornachandra Auditorium, 19-11-1987

"Rendering Service selflessly with a compassionate heart Is alone true Service.

One is bound to attain peace If he serves in a friendly spirit. This is the truth; This is the truth.

"You have to recognise that life is meant for selfless service and not to be lived for selfish purposes. Only through such service can the oneness of mankind be experienced.

However eminent a person may be, he has to realise that the main purpose of life is to render dedicated service to one's fellow men.

Service should be rendered to those who are worse off than ourselves and who are neglected by the world.

It is the weak, the destitute and the helpless who need to be served. Even in rendering service to such persons, there should be no feeling that we are serving 'others'. We should feel that we are serving [God] who dwells in them.

'This is my duty. I am born to serve' -- it is with such an attitude that you should take up service.

All beings in creation are living by rendering mutual service and no one can be considered superior to another.

All service should be regarded as an offering to God and every opportunity to serve should be welcomed as a gift from God. When service is done in this spirit, it will lead in due course to self-realisation. It is this kind of selfless, spiritually oriented service that is needed today. To a world riddled with conflict and chaos, this will provide a climate of serene peace. Regard yourselves as brothers in a family. But do not stop there. Go beyond kinship to the unity of [Spirit].... Shed completely all selfishness and self-interest and enter upon service activities as the highest purpose of life. Service must become your life-breath. You must become ideal [selfless servants] and set an example to the world."



Children Helping Children Campaign (CHC)

Inspired by Ryan Hreljac who dedicated his life to bringing clean drinking water to the villages of Africa, each year the Sathya Sai School students spend one month doing extra chores and making sacrifices to raise funds for Ryan's Well Foundation and for a project supporting children in need. Each year 10% of the funds raised are donated to Ryan's Well Foundation. The certificate below was received in September for the funds raised in April-May 2021. Last year the remainder of the CHC funds were donated to the Indian Residential School Survivors Society in Canada.



Dear Student and teachers at Sathya Sai School,

Thank you so much for your continuing support of our projects in need of funds! We understand the challenges faced trying to fundraise during a global pandemic so commend you on raising such an impressive donation!

Attached is your certificate of appreciation for you to print and share to show others the wonderful work you are doing.

Please feel free to contact us if you ever have any questions or comments. We continue to work remotely, but respond to emails as quickly as we can.

Take care - and stay safe!

Connie
Connie Jensen

Ryan's Well Foundation

info@ryanswell.ca

www.ryanswell.ca

Stay safe and wash your hands!



Parent Council 2021-2022:

Congratulations to all members of the Parent Council team. Principal Dr. Revathi looks forward to working with you and teachers as partners in enhancing our school's mission of promoting Human Excellence.

Principal	Dr. Revathi Chennabathni
Trustee	Mr. Subramaniam Premachandran
Community I	Mr. Keshava Maharaj
Community II	Mr. Sukumar Balasubramaniam
Staff Liaison	Mr. Sam Nankivell
Chair	Mr. Manoj Panda
Chair and Secretary	Mrs. Sheila Khambhla
Treasurer	Mr. Bhavesh Chauhan
JK Rep	Mr. Bhavesh Chauhan
JK Shadow Rep	Mrs. Geeta Iyer
SK Rep	Mrs. Mithra Ramakrishnan
SK Shadow Rep	Mrs. Nitu Kapadia
Gr1 Rep	Mrs. Aeshwarya Kapal
Gr1 Shadow Rep	Mrs. Pinkybahen Desai
Gr2 Rep	Mrs. Lavanya Iyer
Gr2 Shadow Rep	Mrs. Sheila Khambhla
Gr3 Rep	Mr. Manoj Panda
Gr3 Shadow Rep	Mrs. Shruti Harilall
Gr4 Rep	Dr. Francisco Kibedi
Gr4 Shadow Rep	Mrs. Aditi Bhardwaj
Gr5 Rep	Mrs. Rasheela Sinnarajah
Gr5 Shadow Rep	Mrs. Kalyani Muppidi
Gr6 Rep	Mr. Anuraag Sharma
Gr6 Shadow Rep	Mrs. Rupal Panchal
Gr7 Rep	Mrs. Geeta Sharma-Ramkirath
Gr7 Shadow Rep	Dr. Divya Jha
Gr8 Rep	Mrs. Darshita Desai
Gr8 Shadow Rep	Mr. Ajay Tandon

Missing staff photos from Parent Newsletter #1



SK ECE Ms. Jeyadevi Jeyaganesha.

Ms. Jeyaganesha is a trained ECE. She is an alumni parent of two students from Sathya Sai School and is returning as our SK ECE.



In-School Supply Ms. Ketaki Mavinkurve.

Ms. Mavinkurve is an Intermediate and Senior Teacher, OCT certified, with a M.A. in English Literature, and has now joined Sathya Sai School.



IT & BMT Support Mr. Jeremy Wong.

Mr. Wong worked in IT infra-structures for over 10 years. He will combine this experience with Building Management support at Sathya Sai School

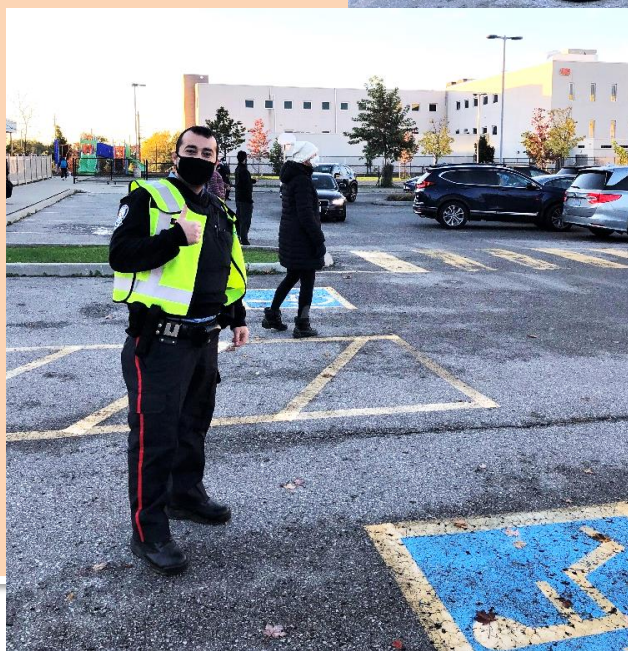
Progress Reports & Parent-Teacher Interviews

- Oct. 28** All Progress Reports are sent home (hard copy or by email).
- Oct. 29** Parent-Teacher Interviews (Virtual) for all parents by appointment only. Mandatory for all parents.



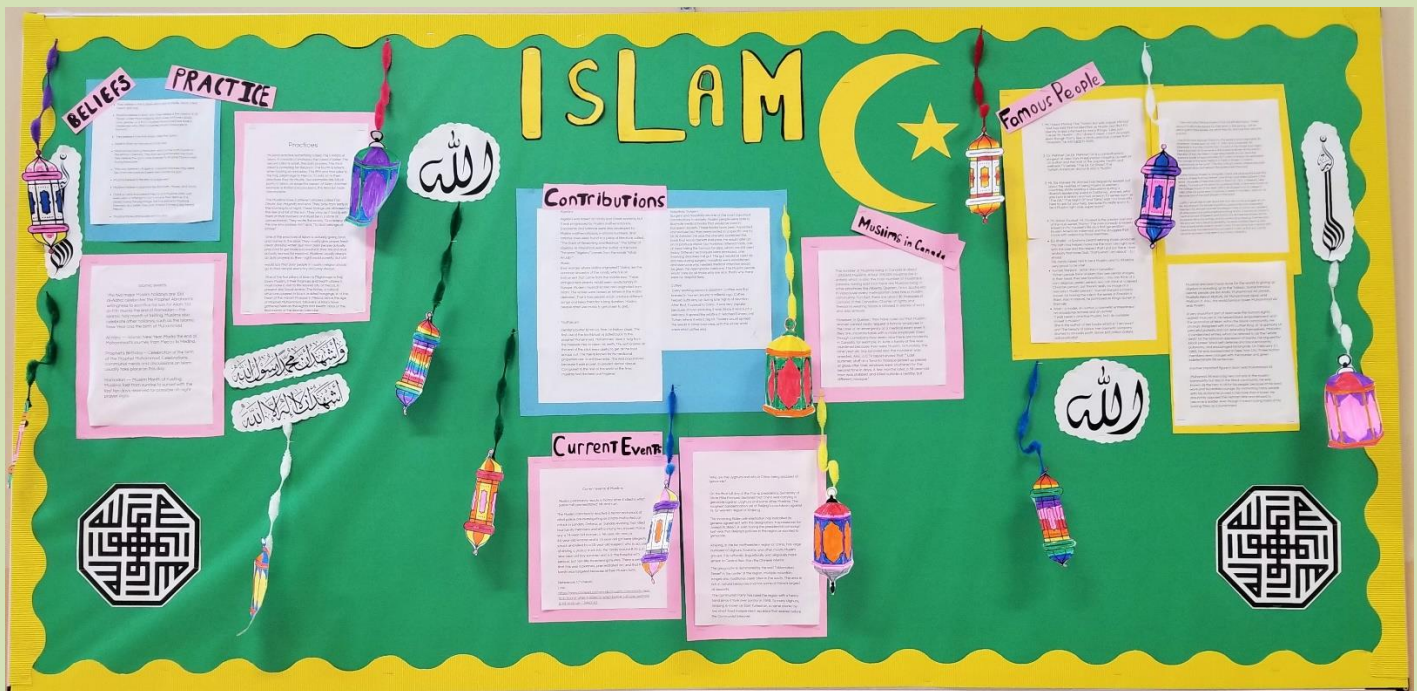
Toronto Police Join Parent Parking Patrol

On the morning of Wednesday, October 27, 2021, Sathya Sai School had a surprise visit from two Toronto Police Officers. Dr. Revathi learned from them that they make unannounced visits to schools, to help assist with the flow of cars in the parking lot, as parents drop-off their students. The school's Parent Parking Patrol gladly asked them to join forces.



Islamic Heritage Month

The Islamic Heritage display board was created by the Grade 7 students and teacher Mr. Sam Nankivell, with artistic assistance from Ms. Ketaki Mavinkurve and Mr. Liet Hau! Thank you all.



• Beliefs & Practice

The Five Pillars are the core beliefs:

- 1) Profession of faith: Shahada. This states "there is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah.
 - 2) Daily prayers
 - 3) Providing for the poor
 - 4) Fasting during Ramadan
 - 5) Pilgrimage to Mecca, the Hajj
- These are required for all believers.

• Contributions

Algebra was based on Hindu and Greek systems, but was progressed by Muslim mathematicians, who also developed exponents and balances, irrational and rational numbers. Al-Khwarizmi, the father of algebra, wrote "The Book of Reasoning and Balance."

Violins are the common ancestor of the rahab, an instrument that came from the Middle East and were revolutionary later in Europe. The modern musical scale originated from Islam. Muslim people often use music to get closer to God.

Toothbrush. One of the first uses of the toothbrush is dated back to the prophet Muhammad. He used a

twig from the Meswak tree, with soft bristles, to clean his teeth. The tree is known for medicinal and anti-bacterials properties.

Surgery and Hospitals are one of the most important contributions to society. Dr. Al Zahrawi published a book which became the source for many illustrated medical books. He produced about 400 different tools, including the forceps and dissolving cat gut for stitching during surgery. Hospitals were established for everyone who needed medical attention and there were no fees charged.

Coffee was first brewed in Yeman around a millenium ago. It was taken by Sufis to stay up during late nights of devotion. The delicacy drink spread to Cairo and then to Europe and Turkey, and from there around the world.

• Muslims in Canada

The number of Muslims living in Canada is about 1,053,945. Ontario has the most Muslims, about 200,000. Many metropolitan areas have a Muslim community. There are about 90 mosques in Canada. In the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the wearing of hijabs is allowed in places of work and in



schools. Though Canada is generally a peaceful country, there have been hate incidents and killings of Muslims by non-Muslim Canadians.

• Current Events

Individuals and families have been targeted because of their Muslim faith.

Who are the Uyghurs and why is China being accused of genocide?

Xinjiang, in the far northwestern region of China, has large numbers of Uyghurs, Kazakhs and other mostly Muslim groups. The area is dominated by a vast desert in the centre of the region, mountain ranges and some oases in the South. The area is rich in natural resources and has some of China's largest oil deposits. The Communist Party took control in 1949 and has ruled with a heavy hand. Beijing has been condemned for its crackdown against the people in the region of Xinjiang.

• Famous People

Grand Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, leading 82.5 million Iranians. He verbalized the concept of "guardianship of the jurist," important to Islamic citizens who follow and respect the government the most.

Shaquille O'Neal pursued a career in the NBA and became one of the best players in the world.

Riz Ahmed, studied philosophy and politics at Oxford, then trained at London's Central School of Speech and Drama. He is known for his films, his acting and outstanding rapping.

Mr. Hasan Minhaj, host of the "Patriot Act with Hasan Minhaj."

Dr. Mehmet Oz, a cardiothoracic surgeon and host of the health and wellness TV series, "The Dr. Oz Show."

Mr. Riz Admed, a TV actor said, "It's really scary to be a Muslim right now, super scary."

Mr. Ramy Youssef, creator and star of "Ramy", a story about first generation Muslim American millennials and their struggles.

DJ Khalid, a Grammy award-winning music producer. "I love anybody that loves God." He is very proud to be a Muslim.

Kumail Nanjani, an actor and comedian, known for his role in Franklin & Bash.

Iman, a model, author, cosmetic entrepreneur, and actress and activist. She is not a practicing Muslim but considers herself a Muslim. She authored two books: "I am Iman" and "The Beauty of Colour."

Some other famous Islamic people are Ibn Arabi, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Mustafa Atatürk, and Sir Muhammad Iqbal.

An important person for Islam was the human rights activist Malcolm X. He helped Black empowerment and the promotion of Islam within the Black community. He strongly disagreed with Martin Luther King Jr.'s opinions of peaceful protests and not defending themselves. Malcolm X condemned whites for the historical oppression of blacks. He argued for black power, black self-defense and black economic autonomy, and encouraged racial pride. On February 21, 1965, he was assassinated in New York City.

Another important figure in Islam was Muhammad Ali. He was a big hero not only in the Muslim community but also in the Black community. He was known as a hero to his people, because of his hard work and incredible courage. By motivating many people with his actions he proved to be more than a boxer. He staunchly opposed the Vietnam War and refused to become a soldier, even though it meant losing many of his boxing titles as a punishment.

Science Project Schedule 2021

Science projects were on hold for 2020-2021 due to the pandemic. This year, since most of our students are currently studying in-school, it was decided to reinstate the Science Project program.

Schedule of due dates for projects:

October 25: Last day for project titles to be brought in.

For approval, the teachers will decide their own dates.

November 29: All the boards to be brought in (any experiments for demonstration can be brought in, on the day that the student will present it).

Nov 29 – Dec 2: The projects are judged by teachers.

December 3: The best three from each of the Junior grades may be on display in a selected area.

December 6: Boards to be taken back home.

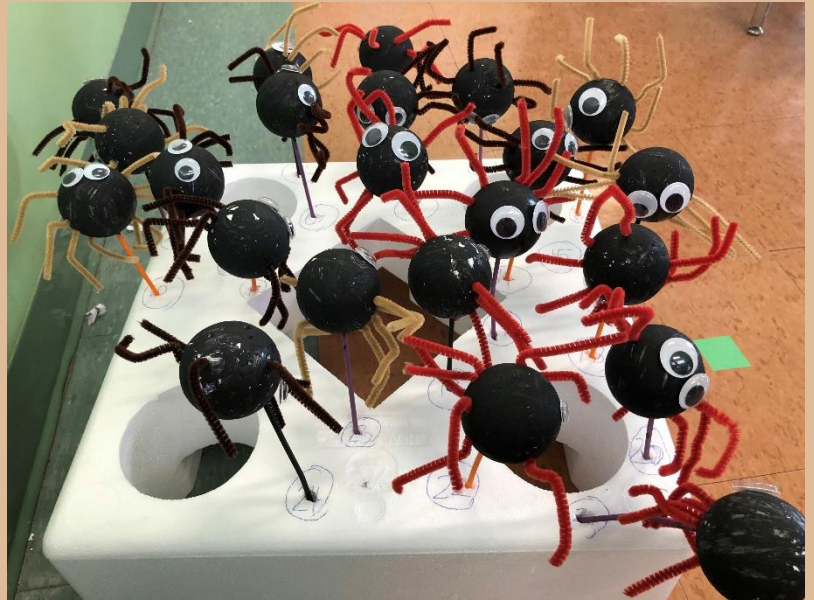
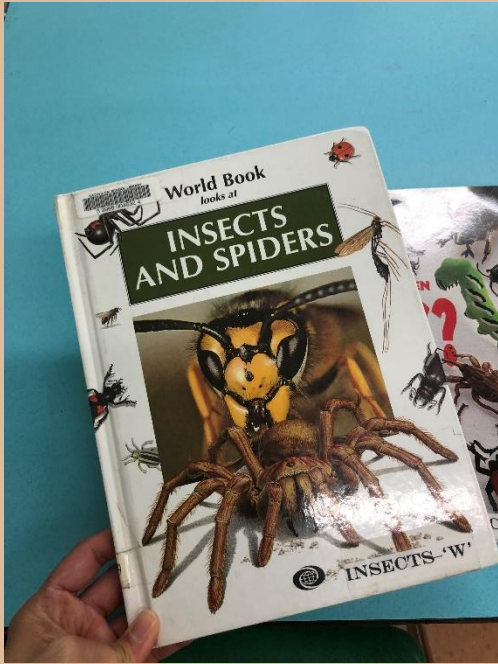
Online students will make a video and send it to their homeroom teachers. The teachers will judge them through Google Meet during the judging week. If any online student gets selected as one of the top three winners, their board can be dropped at school by the parent to be placed on display with other junior grades selected.



JK Spiders Inquiry

By Ms. Debra Gabiana, JK Teacher

After learning the letter W and things that begin with W like the web, the students were interested to know more about spiders and webs. Therefore, I took it as an inquiry opportunity. Here are some photos.

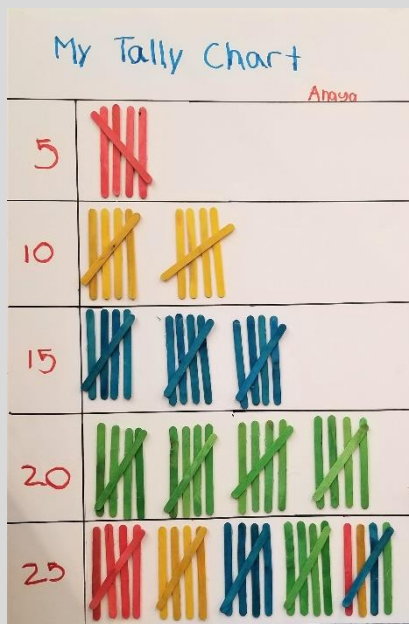
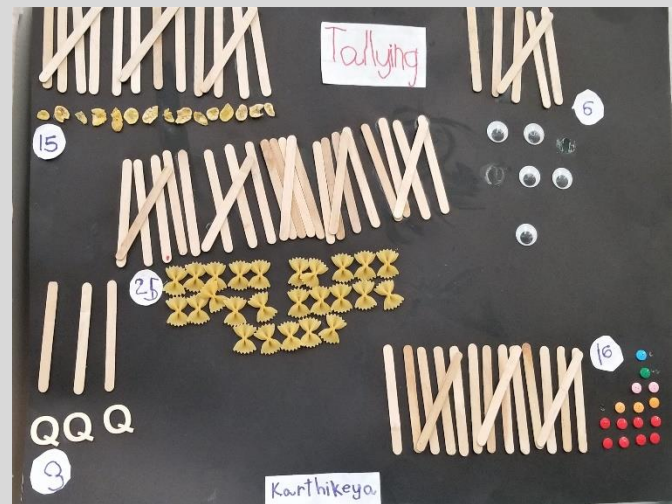
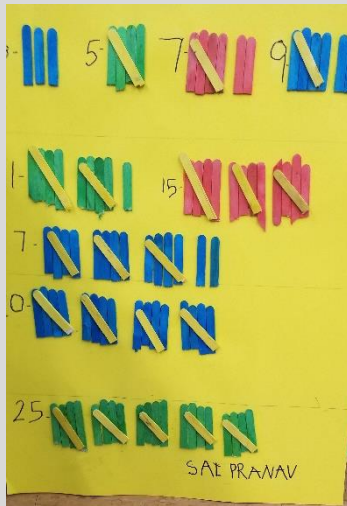
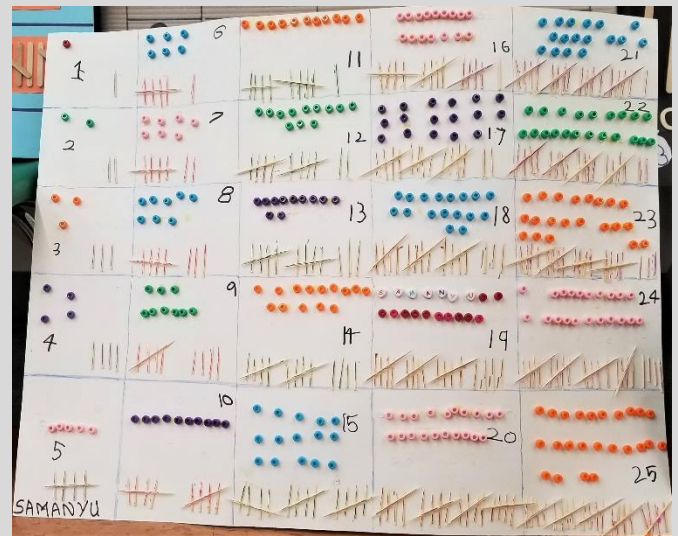


Tallying in SK

By Ms. Ureta Ramjiawan, SK Teacher

The Senior Kindergarten students made a tally poster with numbers from 1 to 25. They used materials from the environment to make the tally.

Students did in-class presentations highlighting how they made it and what they learnt from the activity.



Grade 4 Science

By Mrs. Foram Vora, Grade 4 Teacher

As a part of their learning on Habitats and communities, students explored the concept of adaptations by doing simple experiments in class. They observed the difference between toed feet and webbed feet by exploring how they work in water.

Regular feet/toes move easily through the water without resistance whereas the gloves connected with packaging tape on both sides gives the feel of resistance when you move the "feet" through the water to show how ducks and other webbed feet animals can swim more easily.

Students observed how waxy coating on the outside of leaves reduces water loss whereas it creates a protective barrier that stops feathers from becoming waterlogged.

Students also did research on endangered animals, how to protect them, and made creative presentations on the same.



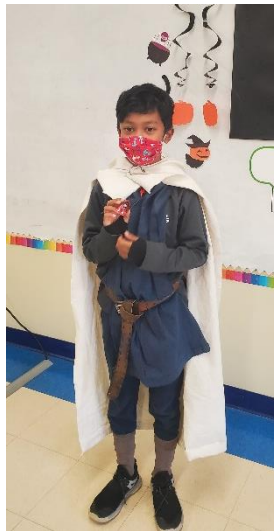
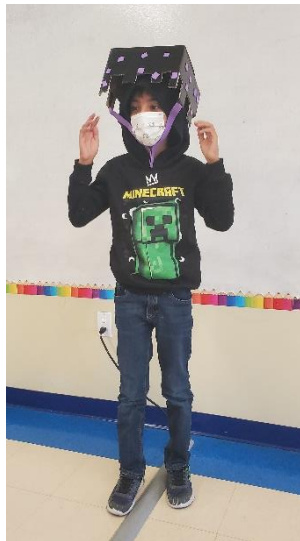
Yoga in JK & SK



Halloween Costume Fun

It has been a tradition at Sathya Sai School to celebrate Halloween in such a way as to bring more light into the world, rather than encourage the dark forces that already are wreaking havoc everywhere. The school's policy is that students are not allowed to wear "dark character" costumes that generate fear and spooky, negative feelings. Instead, dressing up as characters that do good for others is encouraged. For example, many younger students like wearing outfits of community helpers or pop culture heroes who help others.

Homemade Costumes: To save parents money on the once-a-year-worn expensive costumes that the stores are selling, we encourage students to make their own creative and original costumes, to be worn to school on Thursday, October 28. The students with the most original and creative homemade costumes will be acknowledged by teachers.



Founder Chancellor Sri Sathya Sai Baba to Students

Do not get disheartened by failure

Education should be utilized for developing the power of discrimination between right and wrong, good and evil. Without discrimination, a human being is worse than an animal.

You need determination to face the challenges of life, which is filled with ups and downs, successes and failures, joys and sorrows. These challenges have to be faced with faith in God.

The mind should not be allowed to waver and hop from one thing to the other. A steady mind is the mark of a truly educated person. Life should be governed by definite regulations. Self-control is essential for leading a righteous life....

You should not be overwhelmed by difficulties that you may encounter in life. They are all transient and they come and go. The source of enduring bliss is within you. Do not give way to weakness of will. The [scriptures] declares: The Spirit is not realized by a weakling. Most students are apt to get disheartened when they fail to obtain high marks in an examination. They should, on the contrary, regard it as a challenge to do better in future. Students must develop courage, self-confidence and determination so that they can face any situation in life. This is the reason for combining spiritual discipline with academic studies.

- *Sathya Sai Speaks, Vol. 22, Discourse 1, 14 Jan. 1989*



Human Value for Sep/Oct RIGHT CONDUCT

RIGHT CONDUCT

Initiative

Respect

Determination

Resilience

“Mutual respect is the foundation of genuine harmony.”

~ DALAI LAMA





Multi-Faith Festivals around the world

Nov 1

All Saints Day (Christian)



Nov 4

Diwali/Deepavali (Hindu)



Nov 5

New Year (Jain)



Nov 7

Birth of the Bab & Baha'u'llah (Baha'i)



Nov 19

Birth of Guru Nanak (Sikh)



Nov 23

Birth of Sathya Sai Baba (Universal)



Nov 28-Dec 6

Hanukkah (Jewish)



Uniform Note

Due to health and safety concerns, as well as shortages in supply chains worldwide, the Sathya Sai School uniform has been temporarily modified. The order form has been emailed to parents and posted on the school's website.

Important Dates: November 2021

Nov 5 Food Drive extended

Nov 11 Remembrance Day (School Open)

Nov 15 Switch In-school and Online

Nov 22 Founder's Day Celebration

Nov 23 Founder's Birthday (No School)

Nov 29 Science Projects

-Dec 2 In-class & Online presentations

Dec 3 In-class displays

*Yours truly,
Ms. Recht, Admin.Asst.
Dr. Revathi, Principal*

