



SAMITE NEWSLETTER

MESMERISING OCTOBER AT SAM KIDS

“The goal of Early Childhood Education should be to activate the child's own natural desire to learn.”

Maria Montessori

The month of October was ushered in at all SKIPS Centres with great excitement and energy. We had lots of events lined up for the month and all Samites were eager to make the events memorable.

The first event of the month was the much awaited **Field Trip**. Field trips play a very important role in enhancing the learning experience in kids. A visit to an area outside the normal classroom will help children to try new things, have different experiences, and learn valuable life lessons. While a day in the classroom has its benefits, there are many advantages of getting children out of their typical settings and experiencing new environments. Samites from Mamangalam, Kakkanad, Kadavantra and Aluva visited the Science Park at Kalamassery. The Perumbavoor Samites visited Shantigiri Ashram and the Marad Samites visited Decathlon at Vyttila. The children enjoyed the trips to the various locations. They actively learned about the natural world through hands-on activities & games. It was indeed a fabulous day for our Samites.

“Books give a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.”

The 2nd week of October marked the beginning of the **Readathon Campaign**. It is a reading awareness campaign which focuses on various interesting reading activities and encourages reading habits in young children. The campaign runs over a period of four

months –from October to January. The reading activities include story telling sessions, read aloud, puppet shows based on stories, talk on favourite characters etc. Samites enjoy their reading time and actively participate in all reading activities. Parents are also actively involving their kids in reading activities at home.

“Grandparents are a delightful blend of laughter, caring deeds, wonderful stories and love.”

All SKIPS Centres celebrated **Grandparents Day** on 23rd October. It was a day for our Samites to honour the special people in their lives –Grandparents. They play an important role in the lives of their grandchildren. Children find unique acceptance in their relationships with grandparents, which benefits them emotionally and mentally. Sometimes they're playmates for their grandchildren and very often role models and mentors for younger generations. They are also historians - teaching values, instilling ethnic heritage and passing on family traditions. The day started with a prayer invoking the blessings of Almighty. Samites entertained their grandparents with variety cultural programs like dance, action song and skit. All grandparents enthusiastically participated in the fun games. Grandparents enjoyed sharing their experiences and wisdom. The photo session with Grandparents was a moment to capture the memorable day. The family bonding was overwhelming for the grandparents and Samites. A beautiful and memorable day indeed!

All SKIPS centres celebrated **Diwali** on 28th October. Diwali known as the “festival of lights” celebrates the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil, and the blessings of victory, freedom, and enlightenment. The name comes from the Sanskrit word *dipavali*, meaning “row of lights.” On the night of Diwali, people light dozens of candles and clay lamps (called *diyas*), placing them throughout their homes and in the streets to light up the dark night. Another central theme of Diwali is family. Wearing their best new clothes, families gather together to eat sweets and other special foods, light *diyas* and pray for their ancestors. The festival of lights was celebrated with vigour and excitement in all centres. The children were dressed in traditional Indian attires and the centres were decorated with colourful streamers. A special assembly was conducted to enlighten the kids with the knowledge of “Why Diwali is celebrated”. The teachers talked about the significance of Diwali festival and the story associated with Diwali.

Samites enjoyed making the rangoli designs. The cultural activities included songs and dandiya. Decorated in vibrant hues, all SKIPS centres had an ambience of joy and happiness.

The colour chosen for the month of October was Orange. All SKIPS centres celebrated **Colour of the month** on 25th October. **Orange** colour is a blend of red and yellow colours, representing a mixture of the energy associated with red and the happiness associated with yellow. Orange colour represents joy, warmth, sunshine, enthusiasm, creativity, success, encouragement, change, freedom, expression and fascination. It is the colour of joy and creativity. Orange promotes a sense of general wellness and emotional energy that should be shared, such as compassion, passion and warmth. Orange also helps aid decision making and enhances happiness, confidence, and understanding. All Samites celebrated the day with great zeal and zest. The classrooms were beautifully decorated with orange coloured charts, streamers and balloons. All Samites were dressed in dazzling orange attires. The children enjoyed singing the orange colour song. As part of the craft activity, Playgroup Samites decorated lion faces on orange chart paper and Nursery Samites made cut outs of carrots using orange craft paper. The LKG Samites enjoyed making cut outs of orange coloured crabs and the UKG Samites did Pumpkin craft. All these activities enhanced the creativity and imagination of kids.

The **Theme for the month** of October was **Community helpers**. The theme based activities helped Samites gain a greater understanding about community helpers. The information imparted on community helpers like police officers, fire fighters, doctors, nurses, postman etc, helped Samites understand the importance of the role played by community helpers in the society.

The **Moral Rearmament for the month** was about **hard work and the importance of hard work**. Nobody is great without hard work. Hard work is always the baseline of great achievements. Nothing spectacular comes without it. Setting goals, making plans to achieve them, and staying on track is hard work. Various child friendly activities were conducted to explain the concept of hard work and how important hard work is to become successful in life. It is important to instill the quality of hard work in children at a young so that they are consistent in their efforts and learn to achieve their goals.

The delicious spread of **October cuisine** included Sweet Poha, yummy peanut ladoos and crispy French toast as our brunch. Our mouth-watering lunch consisted of nutritious dal curry with roti, pancakes with tasty coconut chutney, plain rice and spinach cooked with dal and seasoned with mustard seeds, potato stuffed paratha with tomato garlic chutney and ghee rice with paneer masala.

As we draw the curtains for the month of October the stage is getting set for another rip-roaring month with lots of exciting activities. Watch out this space for more news from SKIPS.....