



Cambridge
House



12 June 2015

Week At A Glance



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From The Director

Dear Parents,

“Talk to strangers politely... Every friend you have now was once a stranger, although not every stranger becomes a friend.” Israelmore Ayivor

During the start of the school year, the children will meet many strangers, other children, who will soon become their friends. Learning how to make a friend and how to be a good friend is a very valuable skill that is learnt at a young age, at TLC.

During the month of June, the children will learn all about themselves in our first Unit of Inquiry (UOI) – A Very Special Me. It is a great topic that is learned at different academic levels from our little Explorers to our Enquirers, Rangers and even Scholars.

Kind Regards,

Usha Lamba

Director



News

An update from our teachers

News From Our Classrooms

Explorers & Adventurers

With the new academic session just started the children are in different stages of settling down. The children are being released in 15-30 minutes back to their parents and it is lovely to see the joy on their faces when they see their parent's face at the gate.

New songs are being sung to the class of Explorers and Adventurers from the Daily Good Morning Song to the Seasons Song and they are also been shown flash cards of different animals.

A small activity was also conducted with some of the children wherein they had to colour the insides of a beautiful sunflower by dabbing bright yellow and orange paint onto the flower using their fingers.

Discoverers

The school opened on the 4th, some of the

children came back happily to school, while others are still taking their time to settle. The UOI of the month is ME A SMALL WONDER. The children were told about various parts of the body. We sang lot of songs about body parts like heads shoulders knees and toes, I am special, what are your eyes for etc. For art the children stuck eyes lips and tongue on the face drawn for them. They did the finger printing on the sunflower depicting happy face for their worksheet. For the Special My Book the children decorated the first page with glitter stars. They also had handprints for their my book. The children loved decorating the frames to put their picture in their special book.

The children loved singing phonetic song and action songs. Over all it was a good constuctive week .

Enquirers

This week we introduced the children to the good morning song and a few other songs about "Special Me". The Enquirers very enthusiastically sang all the songs.

We also introduced some light exercises to the children which relates to their selves, eg : Touch your toes, blink your eyes, pull your ears and breathe deeply. Montessori activities like threading, pairing, sorting, rolling and folding mats.

We spoke to the children about the different senses by asking them to touch, see, hear, smell and taste. For this we included examples from their own lives like their snacks for smell, sight and taste and the textures of their clothes, bags and props in the classroom.

The story of "The Hungry Caterpillar" was enacted with the help of puppets and toys and had them enthralled. As part of their art work the children coloured sketches of the body and reassembled the cut out pieces and glued them together to form a well defined frame. They also decorated their art work for first day school with glitter.

Rangers 1 and 2

The little children of the Rangers group at Cambridge House are delighted to be back in school after a long vacation and even the new children are well settled and have earned the "You're a Star... I had a great first day at TLC" certificate which was made for them. This week we are in the midst of a very interesting discussion about what makes us all special and that each one of us is unique despite our diversity Therefore we got into making a book "Me a small wonder".

We also discussed external parts of our body and mentioned to the children that we have internal organs as well within us like brain, heart, lungs, stomach, intestine to aid our body function and also a skeleton within us to support our body.



We are revising sounds and singing phonic songs and also rhymes related to parts of the body and special me during circle time. Children are also encouraged to rote count till a hundred and we are also revising days of the week and months of the year.

Songs introduced included Good morning, Happy Day, Time for school, Special me, Head, shoulders, knees and toes, Stories narrated: Timmy's first day at school and The magic portion, both the stories were well received by the children.

Group art this Thursday was about making the "Helping Hand Tree" and children were encouraged to talk about how they like to help using their hands.

Children are being made to practice writing patterns, print letters and numbers according to their levels.

Montessori: Rolling of mat, unrolling of mat, Numbers and Sand paper letters, placing and picking up a chowki.

Science: Experiment to learn the concept of floating and sinking

Audio Visuals: Parts of the human body.

We eagerly look forward to an eventful year at school.



Me, A Small Wonder

The UOI of the month across the school is 'Me, A Small Wonder'. This is being covered through the classes with the help of flash cards, stories and hand puppet shows. While the older ones are learning about Internal and External Organs and the skeleton structure the younger classes are understanding how each person is different and special. A lot of worksheets and artwork are being done simultaneously with the classes.

Information on the Unit of Inquiry (UOI)

Me, A Small Wonder

This unit of inquiry lays stress on the fact that every child is special with unique combinations of abilities and needs that affect learning. All children deserve the opportunity to learn in ways that make the most of their strengths and help them overcome their weaknesses. A child with a gift for social thinking might use line, shape and colour to communicate ideas. Showing her pictures or charts may be a good way to help her learn. Another child might learn by moving. Such a child might learn dance steps in a few seconds or express himself as a mimic or a clown. This child might learn about the solar system for example by moving through a "Planet Dance".

Parents are requested to help the children cut out and make a finger puppet to represent themselves. They can cut out clothes and shoes in their favourite colour and dress up the puppet. Then slip it on their fingers and let them talk about themselves.

They could start by saying: "This is me. My name is Anita. My mother's name is Meera. My father's name is Arun. My brother's name is Roshan. I am four years old. My favourite colour is red. Listening to stories is what I like the best etc."

(Continued)

Activities:

1. Parents can gather photographs of the child at various ages and help the child stick it in an album. Children will enjoy seeing how they looked when they were small babies.

2. Draw an eye in the middle of a chart paper. Make the child stand in front of a mirror and observe himself. Ask the question “What colour are your eyes?” when the child says brown or black let him colour the eye drawn on the chart paper.

3. Tell him/her stories of what he/she did when they were babies, stories about their father, mother and grandparents.

Rhyme:

I am a special person

A very special person

I am a special person

And I'll tell you why?

I have two hands to feel with

I have two eyes to see with

I have two ears to hear with

And that is why.

I have one nose to smell with

I have one mouth to eat with

I am a special person

And that is why

I have two arms to wave with

I have two hands to clap with

I have ten fingers to touch with

And that is why

I have two legs to jump with

I have two feet to walk with

I have ten toes to tip toe with

And that is why.



Upcoming Events

This week the children have all more or less settled down in their classes and some of them are even reluctant to go back home

The whole school is also working on a 'A Special Me' book wherein each child will be given their own book of artwork/interesting activities done to take back to show their parents. These include painting done by the children, photographs of special moments and facts about themselves.

Next week the younger children will be taught about 'My Feelings' while the older ones will learn more in detail about the importance of our internal organs. Next week our Funstastic Friday will be about getting their favourite food/snack to school.



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This Newsletter is written and compiled by our Director and CEO, Usha Lamba. Please send your Feedback and comments to: usha.tlc@gmail.com

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