



Upcoming Events:

3rd October 2017

School Reopens

4th – 27th October 2017

Grand SLAM!

School & Daycare Holidays In October:

2nd October 2017

Gandhi Jayanti

19th October 2017

Diwali

20th October 2017

Diwali



Dear Parents,

The TLC faculty has spent time and effort to research and develop the materials for our Grand SLAM. Our philosophy behind this entire month of October is Harvey White's STEAM, which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. In a talk to the San Diego Economic Development Corporation, he explained that "We simply cannot compete in the new economy unless we do something now about creativity and innovation."

We have chosen to tweak STEAM a bit to SLAM, which includes Science, Language, Art and Math. SLAM at TLC is a way to teach our little ones how to make connections between what they learn at school and real life. It is a fun way of learning through games and hand-on experiments which makes sense to all types of learners because it is based on the natural ways that children are interested in things and learn more about them.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that children need time to be themselves, to play and explore in an unstructured way, and most importantly, children need time to do nothing. This is when they can relax and process the learning and new ideas they have encountered that day or that week, use their imaginations and discover more about what they enjoy and do not enjoy.

Sitting on a blanket in the garden, looking at the clouds or stars, lying on the floor of their room seemingly doing nothing or just having quiet time at home may be interpreted as a waste of time by some, when actually this provides a great opportunity for a child to wonder, think about things, and make sense of all that they have learnt. This is a key part of the learning process and their growth and development.

Whilst we would not suggest any fixed rules on numbers of activities or hours of free time we would ask that you carefully consider your child's time, their needs and the opportunities they have to just be themselves, a child, as well as quality time with parents and siblings as a family. As the saying goes, "the family that plays together stays together."

Have a great month.

Kind Regards,

Usha Lamba
Chief Executive Officer

Parenting Advice From Gandhiji

Mahatma Gandhi is arguably, one of the most influential persons of the 20th century. Albert Einstein, very aptly put it, when he said: "Generations will scarce believe that such a one as this ever in flesh and blood walked upon this earth." He was not just a political leader, but a social reformer and a spiritual teacher, too.

There are a few parenting lessons we can gather from the life of Mahatma Gandhi:

1. "An ounce of practice is worth more than tons of preaching."

This is something that I keep saying to our parent community. Children always model your behaviour, and are very good at following house rules. Parents, however, are bound to slip and break a rule in front of a child, whether it's smoking or cursing or not stopping completely at a stop sign. When they see you act "bad," children react passionately partly because they fear for you. They worry you'll be punished by someone, such as the police or even the school principal. And if you've described the health dangers of smoking or not wearing a seat belt then disregard those dangers, they may fear you're going to die.

2. "If I had no sense of humor, I would long ago have committed suicide."

As a parent, you have got to have a sense of humour to keep your sanity. I'm a big believer that parenting is the most important job a person can take on. Making money is an essential part of life, no question about it, and our careers are a significant part of our pride and identity — but in my opinion, nothing can replace the importance of family.

Being a parent happens to also be one of the most difficult jobs out there, because not only are the challenges huge, but the consequences of our actions (or inactions) are a constant source of anxiety. Parenting also does not offer us the rewards of a professional career, which include an income, health insurance, and the respect of our colleagues and peers. Add to this the fact that we're on duty 24 hours a day for at least 18 years, and it might make you wonder, "How did I get myself into this?"

It is therefore vital to keep a healthy perspective on things, and to have a sense of humor whenever possible. In fact, in October let us celebrate "**Someday We'll Laugh About This**" month, promoting the importance of finding humor during the daily travails of parenting. The take home message, however, is that laughing is important every day of the year, and to not limit it to just one month of the year.

3. "The Simplest acts of kindness are far more powerful than a 1000 heads bent in prayer"

As parents we tend to prioritize our children's happiness and achievements over their concern for others. But children need to learn to balance their needs with the needs of others, whether it's passing the ball to a teammate or deciding to stand up for friend who is being bullied.

Children need to hear this message from us, that caring for others is a top priority. A big part of that is holding children to high ethical standards, such as honouring their commitments even if it makes them unhappy. Instead of saying, "The most important thing is that you're happy", say, "The most important thing is that you're kind."

4. "The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace."

Maria Montessori also believed in Peace Education as a part of the Montessori curriculum. She strongly believed that only love can drive out hate. This can be taught by telling children stories about how important it is to accept each other and celebrate the differences we have. At TLC we provide a platform for students of all ages explore and learn about diversity in the world both in and outside their classroom.

Gandhiji's teachings are as relevant today as ever. Every growing child should be acquainted with his life and times, his struggles to shape himself and his politics that so changed the way the world looks at things. For, as he maintained, his life is indeed his message.

TLC'S GRAND SLAM

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SLAM lessons are built by our curriculum Team, in conjunction with our teachers. They are constantly reviewed and revised. That means that as educators, we work on keeping up with things that change quickly in our world. When there is a major invention, massive storm or political event, all of them have a chance to be incorporated into the curriculum rapidly.

Students learn to organize with mathematics, while they research as scientists and historians by using art to increase their creativity and language so that they can understand and communicate or report on their findings.

All TLC students should have the opportunity to be able to learn in the ways that align with their brain development and what matters to them so that they have the best chance of finding a good path that makes them able to afford a good, basic lifestyle and be happy.

Our students will get a head start on topics that will positively impact their future and ignite their passion for learning. Some of the science experiments they will work with are: The Three States of Matter, Experiments on Photosynthesis, Floating and Sinking, The Solution Process and Magnets.

Language will include many word games, word building, story telling sessions and plenty of reading for our Ranger classes.

During the Art section of our Grand SLAM month, the students will use their creativity, use different mediums to experiment with crafts, generating new ideas as they work collaboratively in small groups.

Math will include irresistible games to improve number fluency, processing information, following directions, problem solving and even hand-eye coordination.

Finally, getting excited about and actually doing extra activities to help enrich your child's daily life with SLAM is our main purpose. At TLC our curriculum already infuses hands-on opportunities to build on the natural curiosity of all children. Through our project-based, inquiry-driven UOI's, the children explore and discover the world around them while learning literacy, problem solving skills, and collaboration techniques. The children construct their own learning using critical thinking, creativity, and innovation.

Attention Parents!

At TLC, EVERY child's safety is important to us. The school pick-up or drop-off is a carefully orchestrated endeavour. It is important to be on time, prepared, and above all else, safe. You need to be aware of your kids, other kids, other parents, and oh, yes, your vehicle. It can feel like a minefield! Here are a few reminders:

1. Leave Lots of Time: There is nothing worse than rushing in the morning, especially if you are driving in Bangalore. You can become careless and not pay full attention to the things around you. Also, this is the easiest way to add stress in your life.

2. Be Aware: The drop off zone at TLC is filled with excitement, with your child's friends also arriving, and other cars and people on the road. Please ensure that you physically hand over your child to the Safety Officer or the teacher on morning duty. Do NOT just direct your child to go inside the campus from the gate and leave.

3. Put Down Your Phone: Not only is it dangerous and illegal, but it sets a bad example for the little ones. When you are behind the wheel, there is no need to check your phone. Set up the Bluetooth in your car in case you need to make emergency calls.

4. Walkers have Rules Too: Not everyone who picks up or drops off their kids for school is driving them. In fact, many parents or caregivers walk with their kids to school. If you fall into this category, use this opportunity to teach or refresh your kids on the rules of the road to ensure that they will be safe even when you are not there. Always stick to the sidewalks, and follow all traffic signals and laws. Keep your eyes open for cars, as well as cyclists and other children.

If you pick up or drop off your kids at school every day, it can be easy to go into autopilot mode and not think too much about what you are doing. Unfortunately, doing that can lead to your kids being late or unprepared, other parents being upset with you, or even in worst case scenarios, an accident or incident to occur. Hopefully, these tips will help to make your drop-offs and pick-ups run smoothly for years to come.

Unit's Of Inquiry (UOI's)

TLC's UOI's are designed to stimulate imagination, creativity and self-discovery in our young students. Reflecting our international context, our curriculum draws from the best curricula globally, and is delivered within the Montessori framework. Warm and nurturing learning environments support our inquiry and play-based approach, ensuring our children develop the knowledge and skills needed for their future academic success.

Units of Inquiry in October:

Seasons, Special Features of Seasons, Clothes We Wear in every Season, Fruits/Vegetables and Food we eat

Science:

States of Matter

Geography:

Introduction to India's Neighbouring Countries, States and Capitals of India

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