



FULCRUM

- A balance between work and play!
That's what Sattva Learning Centre does to its students.

Fulcrum is an attempt to look back, reminisce, ponder, sigh, and sum up -This time, last year!

The flashback helped to stop, pause, wince, appreciate, fold hands in gratitude and plan ahead.

Sharing a glimpse with you....

Daily activities and events:

Yoga on Mondays – Students have experienced the essence of yoga and the effect on focus and concentration with the pointed asanas and inputs given by the teacher.



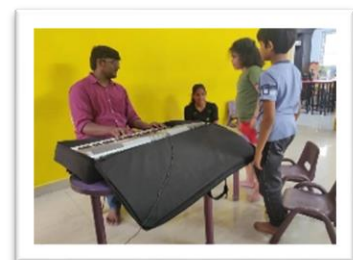
Dance for fitness and fun on Tuesdays – had the children rocking and enjoying to the feet tapping music. At the same time, it was evident, that they were getting the much-needed physical activity.



The most favourite day of the week being the culinary day on Thursdays, had the students get more and more creative with no-fire cooking and lip-smacking dishes.



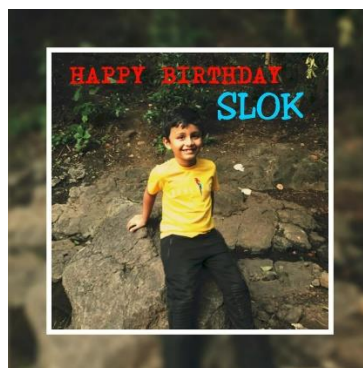
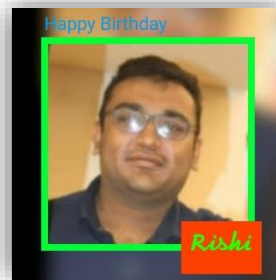
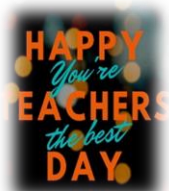
Sing-a-long with the music teacher on Fridays – to the seasonal festive favourites and certain all-time favourites, made one wonder, if the children had no dearth of talents.



The juniors were busy learning what best they could, with the support of very unique, efficient and kind hearted teachers.

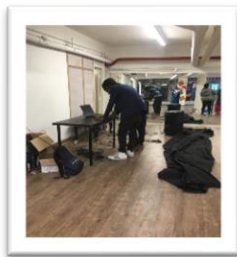


Along with the joy of learning, we ensured that all festivals, celebrations, birthdays were marked with loads of cheer and gaiety.



We welcomed 2020, unaware of what was in store.

The annual day event on 26th January, was a super duper hit! Little did we realise the potential our children had! They set the stage on fire with their performance(s). Right from the word go, the yoga act, the mime on mobile mania (this was a treat!), the songs and the choir, the exhilarating dances, the talk-my-heart by each one – not to miss the fabulous eats and refreshments, the entire evening was a mesmerising one. From start to finish it was an event that brought out the best in each student – great camaraderie and team-spirit – absolute sense of bonhomie.



The gloom and fear of COVID-19 finally hit us in Feb'2020.

We closed half way into March'20, without a clue as to what is on the cards.

ONLINE LEARNING:

Very hesitantly and with a lot of anxiety, we opened up SKYPE as a platform to meet and continue our lessons. The seniors joined in one by one, and barring the basic hiccups that we faced, the classrooms were effective and we could actually translate the physical classes into virtual ones.

With the uncertainty over the NIOS board exams, we continued our preparations for the exams.

With CBSE cancelling the boards, NIOS also decided to cancel grade x /xii exams. A huge disappointment for the parents and teachers – but a bonus for the students! They walk through the classes without giving exams and get promoted! History has enough to speak on COVID and its disasters! This being one of the many.

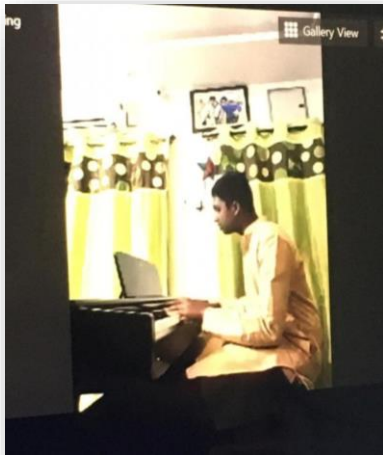
The juniors got it worst from the repercussions of covid. Virtual classes were not for them. With the help of parents, we could keep the juniors hands-on with worksheets and home-based activities.

As the fear of COVID subsided, and the restrictions eased out, our most wonderful and considerate teachers could go over to the Juniors' homes to work with them. This proved to be a great relief as the children had to be aligned in a productive routine. While Slok and Satwik could work this way, Aarohi, Saanvi and Snikitha could work online. Here again we had the support from the parents and older siblings.

All the while we met the children online for classes, we even managed celebrations of festivals, birthdays and important days online. The more we were virtual, the more we longed for the good old times of a physical environment.

DEC 2020:

We couldn't stop Ashrith from showcasing his talent by taking part in an international music concert. We are so Ashrith proud.



The seniors began preparing diligently for the October boards. Each month brought with it more and more question marks, and the creeping delay in the exams finally resulted in exams being announced for January 21. We felt hopeful as offline exams signalled that things are perhaps returning to being normal.

As we saw the world outside functioning as usual, we decided to reopen after Sankranti. Almost all the students got back to the school. COVID protocols were followed...The cleanliness of the class rooms, hand hygiene, mask and so on...

The sanitisation from time to time was carried out meticulously by UrbanClap.



The October exams that happened in Jan/Feb 21, brought us delightful 100% results. The joy was doubled as the students actually wrote full fledged offline exams in Kendriya Vidyalaya. This made us sit up with a lot of hope and renewed commitments.



We restarted our culinary days with fireless cooking, the dance for fitness, yoga as part of our daily activities. Birthdays were in the air.

As we missed the zeal of an annual day celebration, we decided to go trekking. The camp organisers from Outlife.in gave us a memorable day at Keesargutta. The beauty of this trip was that, many parents had joined us on the trip and the day was very vibrant with many learnings.

FEB 21

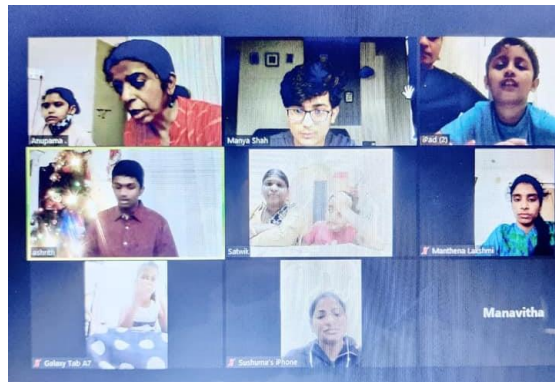
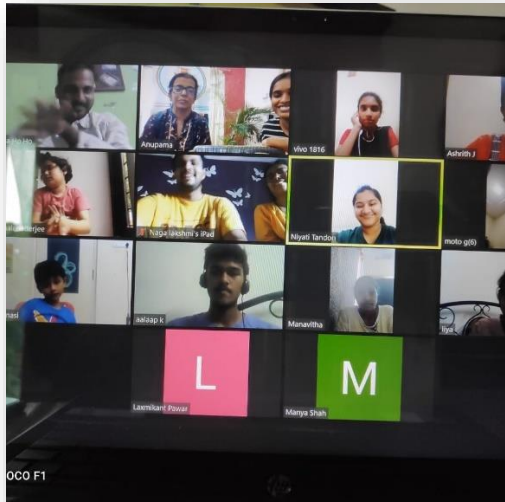
A day @ Keesara with Outlife.in, turned out to be a great hit! It left the kids asking for more. Trekking in the month of Feb seemed a cool idea. We decided to make this an annual event.



While we were focused on our little world at Sattva, we heard from a distance about the so called 'second wave'! Some of us shrugged it off, and some paid least attention. Little did we know that this was worse than the tsunami of 2004 ... It has shaken and is shaking up the country to such heights, that as the horror is unfolding as of now – we are shattered with disbelief at the devastation that has taken place.

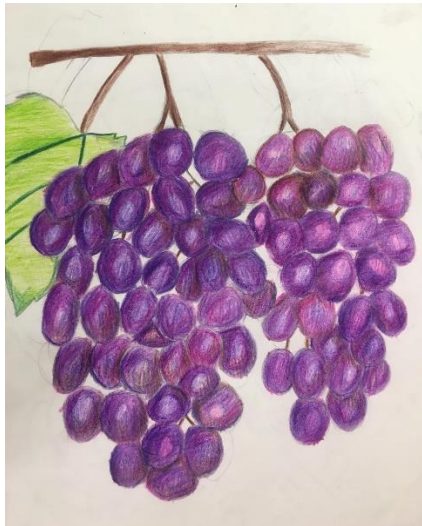


A partial lockdown and a more intense lockdown had us shutting the school, only to work from home again from mid-march. The smallest of our lot are the ones to suffer from this situation. The two munchkins who cannot sit online for the classes, are religiously working on worksheets given to them by the teachers daily. The older ones, the girls, are ready to take on the next level of learning in their stride. And we are so looking forward to Aarohi and Saanvi step up on their learning.



Alas! Second year in a row, secondary exams are cancelled! Students are promoted without being given a chance to perform. We wish our students well and wish to assure them that knowledge gained while preparing for the exams, is never wasted. They have shown tremendous patience and cooperation all along and gracefully gone with the flow of events.

The weekend skill development programmes such as abacus and fine arts too found their way to virtual classes! We have parents looking for us all the time in this direction!



In the midst of May 21, trying to sum up our journey of the last year and a half – I can only hope fervently that we are united in our battle against COVID, and that we will emerge successfully. COVID has left a lot of pain and scars behind.

Marching into the new academic year from the 7th of June, here's to hoping:

- That we work as diligently online as we would offline
- Not waste precious hours/days waiting for the pandemic to get over and for things to become 'normal'.
- The new normal as we are experiencing has come to stay.
- We pledge to mark all events/festivals with great fervour and gaiety – in this hybrid model
- We will bring forth a bi-monthly newsletter – and students will be allowed a corner to have their say. They can share their thoughts and reflections under their name or under a pen-name.
- We will take on extra activities with enthusiasm and give it our best, while we attempt to explore, art/music/dance/theatre – to our fullest.

Time to conclude the newsletter:

Feedback /inputs/suggestions – (no spoilers) are welcome to help us build the SATTVA family stronger. The joy of learning/teaching should reach our students and make them proud to be a part of SATTVA.

As we mark a year of pandemic life, there is so much to grieve for – losing loved ones, shutting down of businesses, economic devastation, craving and longing for shared experiences.

But there are reasons to hope: We have learned and innovated; we have learnt to rejoice in simple pleasures. We recognise the things we cherish most about – and how excited we will be to get back to them.

Wishing every one well and ending with –

“.... Despite all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams,
It’s still a beautiful world.

Be careful. Strive to be happy. (Poem: Desiderata)



Meenakshi