



**Epistemo**  
Vikas Leadership School

# Epistemo **Lemur's News**



**AUGUST 2019**

Greetings from Epistemo!

The month of August in the school calendar often holds out as the best and most loved month, because it offers students an extra-large chunk of fun and enjoyment, before the exams come calling. This August was no different.

Choc-a-bloc with events and competitions, the month of August enlivened the atmosphere at school, giving students the opportunity to explore, compete, participate and do things differently and innovatively. Here's a round-up of the goings-on at school this August.

### **Cambridge Theatre Fest**

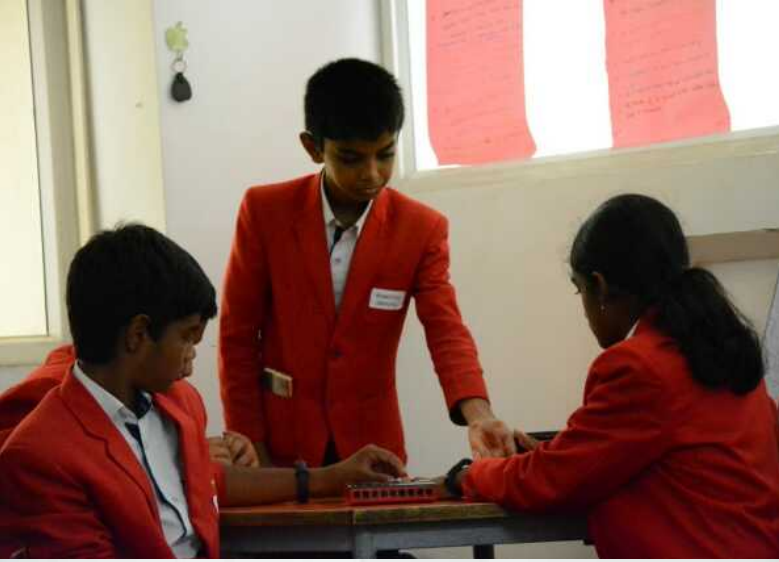
The Cambridge Community Theatre and Robotics fest took place in our school on Saturday 6 August 2019. Ten schools from around the city registered for the events. The object of this fest was to provide a platform for budding talent and encourage creativity and spontaneity in young students in expressing themselves. It also provided an opportunity for students to meet, interact and make new friends with other students from schools around the city.

The event flagged off with a welcome address by Principal Ms. Hema Surapaneni in the school auditorium where all the participants had gathered. In her address, she emphasized the importance of team work and collaboration, and the need to put the best foot forward in all endeavours regardless of what the results are.

The event was judged by Ms. Chandra Sivakumar and Ms. Leela Vishnu Priya, educationists and teacher trainers with several decades of experience in the field. The children put up original, gutsy performances, in the short span of time that was assigned to them. Group IV, that staged a performance "Heist of time past" based on Science Fiction won the first prize, while group II that staged a play based on the environment called "Nature's Nightmare" won the second place.

The Robotics workshop and competition was held in the ICT lab, for which 10 schools registered. In the competition that followed, Kennedy Global won the first position, while the second position was bagged by Epistemo. Each student got a Robo Guru License with lifetime validity as a takeaway.











## Independence Day Celebration

The school came together on August 15 for celebration of the Independence Day. Principal Mrs. Hema Surpaneni hoisted the National flag. The Flag hoisting was followed by Inter-house singing and dancing competitions on the theme of patriotism. The Inter-house music competition was judged by Ms. Deepti, parent of Sai Sudheeksha of PP2 & Ms. Anandita Mukherjee, parent of Ayan Vasudeva of 2A. For judging the Dance competition, we had Ms. Geetika, parent of Krithika of 2C and Ms. Bhavika Shekhawat, parent of Nevaan of grade 1.

Certificates of appreciation were given away to the winners of inter – house music and dance competition.









The first PTM of this academic year was conducted on Saturday, August 24 . Parents had the opportunity to interact with the teachers regarding the performance of their wards not just in academics but also in other areas including sports, music,dance, art and craft. Feedback and marks were shared with parents. Parents were highly appreciative of the organized manner in which the PTM was conducted and professional and empathetic response of the teachers and co-ordinators. The students also put up a stall to sell hand-made Ganeshas in view of the upcoming festival of Ganesh Chaturti.



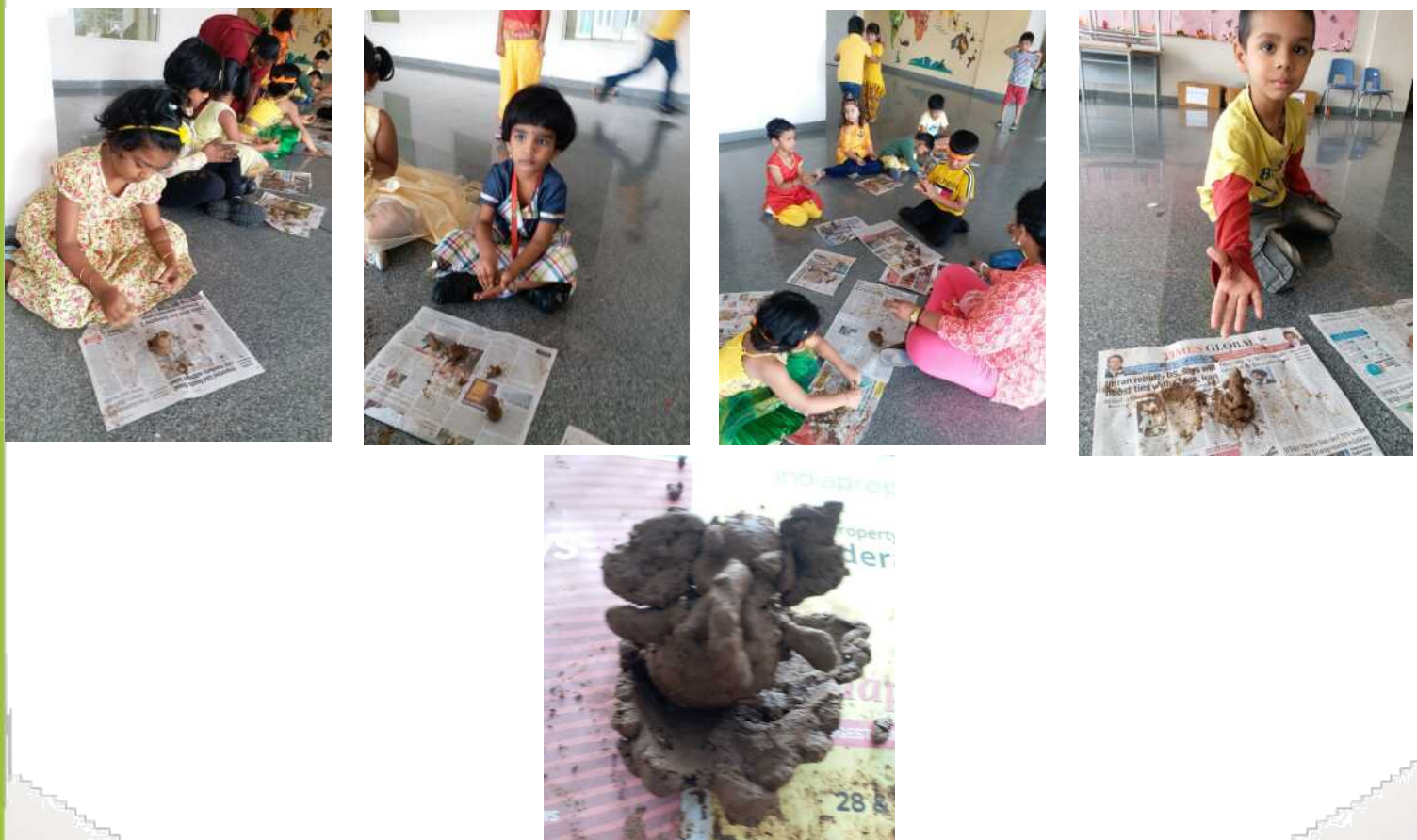




### Sale of Ganesh Idols:

This month, the students of the school made clay Ganeshas in their craft classes and clubs, and these were sold to raise money for charity. The purpose was not only to involve the children in a creative pursuit, but also teach them the value to tolerance, secularism and respect for nature. Children of all classes participated enthusiastically in the activity, regardless of cultural and religious differences, working together to create a wonderful array of little Ganeshas. These were later sold in stalls set up by the children.

Apart from the stall set up in our school on PTM day, the students also sold the Ganeshas in a stall set up in the Vikas Campus on August 30, raising a fair sum of money, to be donated for a good cause.





## Grandparents' day

To honour and express our love and regard for grandparents, the preprimary section organised Master-Chef event on Saturday, 17 August 2019 for grades 1-4. The event provided an opportunity for children and grandparents to bond over food. Grandparents along with their grandchildren made delicious dishes on campus. They sang songs and shared their experiences with the children. The tiny tots from preprimary also kept the grandparents entertained with their enchanting performances.







## Janmashtami Celebrations

On Friday, 23 August 2019, the pre-primary section of Epistemo organised colourful celebrations to mark the occasion of Janmashtami, the birthday of Lord Krishna. The little lemurs looked charming in their traditional dresses. Beautiful decorations were put up to make this event more cheerful and fun. Children danced to lively tunes in a Ras lila rendition. A 'Matki Phod' event was also organized to celebrate the mischievous nature of 'Bal Gopal'.







## Ganesh Chaturthi Celebrations

The tiny-tots also celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi was celebrated with vigour and vim on Friday, August 30. Children showcased dances, songs and skits depicting the importance of Ganeshji. Speaking on the occasion, Principal Ms Hema Surapaneni said that one should not forget the culture, tradition and importance of celebrating festivals





## FILMIT India Workshop 2019 – BY INTACH and Helen Hamlyn Trust.

Filmit is a multi-cultural project that aims at nurturing cultural understanding, care and concern amongst school children through the exciting experience of making and sharing films. Our school has been part of this endeavor for the past 4 years, our students also bagging awards for their films.

As a part of the program, a workshop was conducted on 14th August at Jubilee Hills Public School by the content expert from INTACH and technical experts from Tuning Fork Films, who are renowned award-winning filmmakers, where 8 students and two teachers from our school participated.



As part of the Health and wellness program for students, Principal Ms. Hema Surapaneni conducted interactive sessions for students of grades 8,9, & 10 on few important topics like character and personality development, etiquette and grooming, personal image building and management, and hygiene and safety in adolocent girls.



In the recently concluded SGFI Cricket tournament 26 students from our school represented Serilingampally zone in U- 14/17 category in the selections organized by School Sports and Games Federation of Rangareddy held from 31 July to 3 August 19. Tanay of grade 6 & Akshath of grade 8 also participated in the Rangareddy - SGFI Under -14 cricket tournament bagged Runner up position. Tanay has also been selected to represent Ranga Reddy district in the state meet.



Shreyas of grade 7, Chanakya of grade 7, Akshat of grade 8, Harish of grade 8 Anirudh of grade 8, Pranav of grade 9 and Sumedh of grade 10 have been selected to represent Ranga Reddy district in state level under 14 & 17 cricket tournament organized by SSGF.



Our students participated in the cultural festival 'Impulse', organized by Meridian - Kukatpally branch. Around 40 schools and 3000 participants participated in the event. Purab Agarwal of grade 10 secured 3rd position in the photography competition. Krithika of grade 2 secured 3rd position, Lokesh of grade 5 secured 2nd and Meghana of grade 4 bagged 3rd position in the 'Independence day Roller skating Open Championship 2019' organized by mega skating academy at Kotla Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy Stadium.





Charitha Kola , Jatin Shresth ,Sarthak Mishra, Chanakya Gutta, Musfirah Umar and Lalith Eswar of grade 7 participated in Ranga Reddy district shuttle badminton Tournament organized by School Games Federation of India. Kalyan P & B Rewanth Reddy participated in Ranga Reddy district Tennis Tournament organized by School Games Federation of India.



72 Lemurs participated in the 2nd Telangana State level Drawing competition organised by Cultivating Art on "Khelo India" theme. It rained medals, with gold medals bagged by Advay Bharatram of grade PP1, Pari Rastogi of Grade 1, Sansita Bihari of grade 2, Ujjwal Mahapatra of grade 5, Vasudha and Ganesh Bhutekar of grade 7. Pratishtha Mishra secured a silver medal, while Shaik Mohammed Atif of Grade 2 and Sahana N of grade 6 won Bronze medals.





On account of " National Sport day" Friends Badminton Academy organized Sri Ram Sports Fest, our Lemurs Sahana of grade 6 bagged Runner Up position in Chess, under 12 girls category, Siddharth of grade 6 secured Runner Up position in Chess, under 12 boys category and Sarthak of grade 7 achieved Runner Up position in Badminton, under 12 boys category.



## Assembly

The value of the month of August was BALANCED. The four houses namely, Archimedes, Odysseus, Pythagoras and Socrates, presented the Friday assembly, highlighting the value through skit, song, speech and demonstration of the idea. The Inter house, Inter School and other external events' Certificates, Medals and Trophies were also distributed to the achievers.

On Friday August 23, the language departments put up presentations in Hindi, Telugu, French and Spanish to commemorate Language Day.







## Health Checkup

Health and dental checkups for students of all grades were conducted by Citizen Hospital on school premises, and the reports have been shared with the students.





## Activities:

### Preprimary Activities

The learners of pre-primary learnt all about the concepts through different types of activities. These activities are not only made children aware of the importance of environment, but also helped hone their fine motor and gross motor skills.





## Activities from other classes

Students of grade 1 did some hands on activities to learn science and math concepts this week.

In science, the lemur's learnt properties of material objects by classifying different things such as cotton towel, metal coin, paper plate, wooden ladle and plastic transparent jar etc., as transparent, weak or flexible.

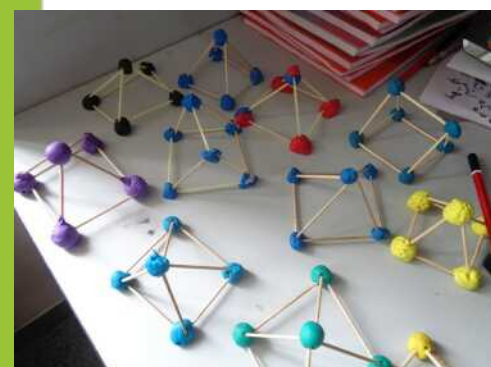
In Math, they practiced ascending and descending order through flashcard activity.



Students of grade 2 did an interesting activity on the science behind the formation of rocks using 3 types of chocolate.



Grade 3 Lemurs had fun in making 3D-shapes using clay dough and toothpicks. In this activity students created Pyramids and prisms using tooth picks and clay dough and counted the number of edges as number of toothpicks in the figure and number of vertices as the number of clay dough balls. Later they differentiated those figures. Students now can confidently differentiate the 3D shapes as pyramids and prisms based on their edges and vertices.



The Olympic Games are an important international event featuring summer and winter sports, held every four years.

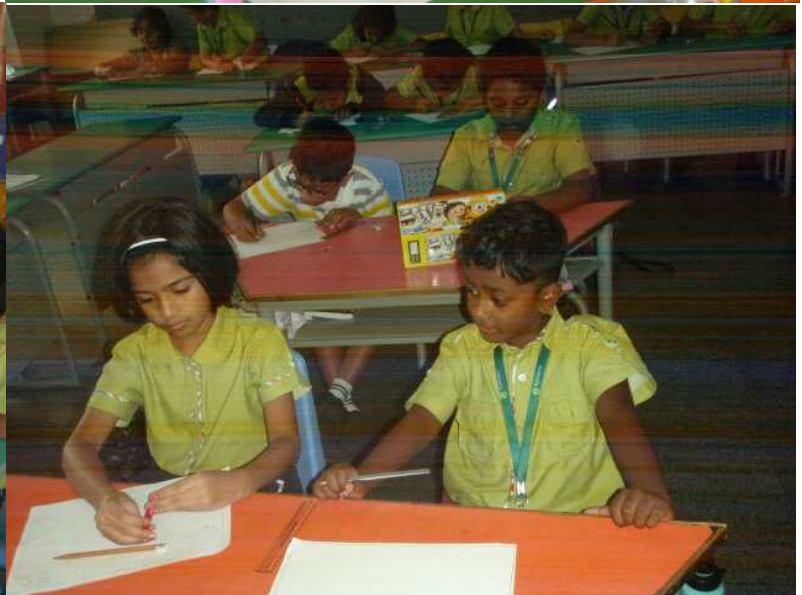
Grade 2 Lemurs recreated the mock Olympic Games 2019 at Epistemo. The event was presided over by our beloved Principal, Miss. Hema Surapneni, accompanied by the Sports Department. With support and assistance from class teachers, the Lemurs represented five countries –India, UK, Japan, China and Australia in the games. All the ceremonial rites and symbols associated with the game were replicated by the students to make the event real and memorable.

The healthy competition among the countries ended with medal ceremony. All the preparations and arrangements like the flags, medals, posters and the invitation were shared among the sections and executed well, gaining great applause and appreciation from the audience and Principal.

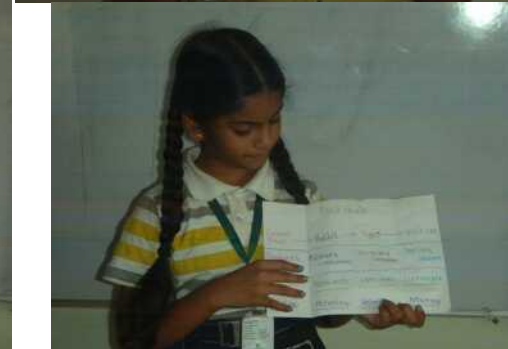
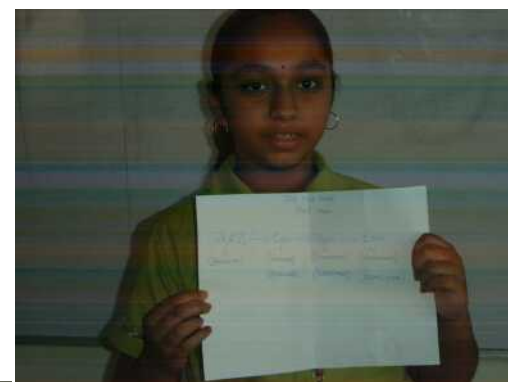




In grades 4b and 4c, the learners tested the strength of magnets by measuring the distance from which it can attract metal paper clips. Further to understand the requirement of water and sun-light for plant growth they set up an experiment and made observations on a daily basis.



Students of grades 5B & 5C participated in a group activity where they built food chain pyramids using a combination of organisms at each level, and presented the same to their peers. As an individual activity, the learners also made a zig-zag booklet on the food chain.



Grade 5 enjoyed some hands on math activities this month.. Using the activity kit that was provided, they validated all the "general statements about numbers" along with "operations with integers" such as count on and count back. The activity helped the students strengthen their understanding of Integers and Operations with Integers.



Hindi students of grade 3 and 5 also had some activities to liven up their learning.

कक्षा तीन के छात्रों ने पाठ-6 गोल-गोल संसार को अभिनय करके समझा ,तथा बड़े से बड़ा गोला कैसे बनाया जा सकता है यह भी सीखा।

कक्षा पाँच के छात्रों द्वारा 'आधुनिक जीवन बेहतर है या प्राचीन जीवन बेहतर था ' विषय पर वाद-विवाद किया गया।

कक्षा पाँच के छात्रों ने ' कश्मीर' तथा 'राजस्थान' राज्यों की वेश भूषाओं पकवानों भाषाओं तथा प्रसिद्ध स्थलों के चित्र कक्षा पुस्तिका में चिपकाकर उनके बारे में बताया।

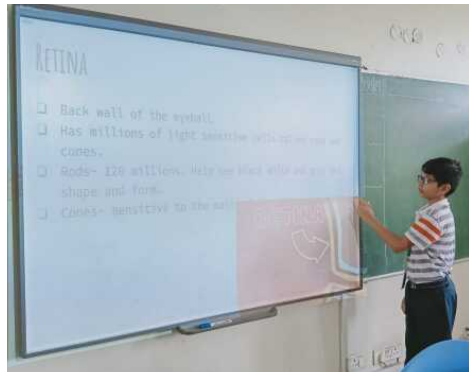
As part of their learning about Chilika lake and vision to save the ecosystem, students of grade 8 B gave group presentations for creating awareness among the students of grades 5, 6 and 7 on how birds are getting endangered, the reasons behind and how to protect them from getting endangered and the importance of managing waste and recycling. The students used various media like PowerPoint presentation, chart work, 3 D models, videos, discussions, asking thought provoking questions and quiz. Every group presentation carried a message. "A good thought can bring an inevitable change in the society."



Students of grade 6 learnt the properties of matter through Flash cards, chart making, model making and role play.



Students of grade 7 learnt different properties of light in Physics through model making, story-telling, using shadows, demonstrations, student led classes and presentations.



Handling data is a crucial aspect of mathematics which relates to collecting, representing and analyzing data in order to solve a particular problem or question. As part of their study on data handling, students of grade 8A were asked to interview the people by preparing the questionnaire based on a given topic, collect the data and present it.

It was indeed pleasure to see the students working collaboratively in a team and exchanging their ideas freely.



## Professional Development

Our teachers Mrs Dhara Sahay, Mrs Manasi Mohapatra from the science department along with Mrs Supriya Veerangana and Mrs Swapna Parchuri from the Social science department attended a workshop on "Beyond the Classroom" organised by Trailblazers. The theme of the workshop was 'Outdoors and 21st Century Skills' to encourage the inculcation of outdoor activities in the curriculum which would bring about the development of 21st century skills such as -creative thinking, innovation, problem solving, team work.



The work shop on "Art & Drama Therapy" for Special need children was held at Birla Open minds on 20th August 2019. The work shop gave the insight to teachers about how to use, art and theatre in the teaching of children with special needs. The session was helpful to teachers in encouraging special children to develop self- consciousness, self-confidence, self- expression, self-esteem, self- control and also to improve global or specific abilities



We are proud to share that our English faculty and HOD Ms. Bindu Sridhar has been awarded the TPO Achievement Certificate and Reliance Foundation for Teachers Award, along with a cash award of or Rs. 10,000/- for having stood first in the state of Telangana, in the Teaching Professionals Olympiad held in December. The award includes a citation for the school as well.



We are pleased to share that our Basketball coach Mr. D.S.P. Kaushik, who is a member and Sr. Instructor in the Adventure Club of Telangana State (ACTS), organised an ice-breaking session for A ranked IAS and IPS trainees at DR. Marri Chenna Reddy Human Resources Development centre in Jubilee Hills on 28th August. He received a certification of appreciation from Mr. Ranga Rao, Founder and Director of ACTS.



## **Students Speak.**

### **Senses Poem –Rain**

**By Siddhartha of grade 9B**

Who says the sky has to be blue  
for me to be happy?  
I'm perfectly happy with the rain hitting my cheek!

There's no better smell  
than that of the freshly soaked mud  
and the blooming flowers..

And no better sound  
than that of the little raindrops  
hitting the grass  
Not daring to be louder than a whisper...

### **Senses Poem- Rain**

**Srishti Hemnani, 9B**

When the raindrops hum on my roof  
I feel a sense of calm.  
My soul feels as if it is with the clouds,  
floating with them, going someplace warm.  
I slip into slumber as the sky continues to pour..  
And then,  
A sudden CRASH!  
It is the thunder that wakes me up!  
I wonder why the sky is so upset today?  
Pouring down all its sadness and anger.  
I twist and toss and try to go back to sleep,  
continuing my thoughts.....  
Until I feel calm, and the coldness of the rain....  
And then,  
A soft patter..  
The rain sings me to sleep again.

### **Tiger- A Haiku Poem.**

Peacefully it sits,  
flaunting its black and orange  
Daydreaming maybe,  
Stripey and hairy  
I stare at it as it rests  
Can never be tamed..  
Truly Nature's best hunter!

**- Surya Pranav,  
Grade 9**

### **Student Speak: Stall for the Sale of Ganeshas at Vikas**

We had the opportunity to visit Vikas Concept School on August 30 to set up a stall for the sale of Ganesh idols made by our school students. Our purpose was to spread a thoughtful message, create awareness and inspire people to be more inclined towards natural and eco-friendly organic products and practices. Along with that we also wanted to spread the feeling of brotherhood and secularism, emphasizing on the fact that religion plays no role in people being together and celebrating. It is just an act of togetherness and equality.

The school welcomed us warmly, and the students in particular were co-operative and supportive. We had a really good experience and the opportunity to learn real life entrepreneurship skills. It also felt wonderful and had a very personal resonance—for me, being a muslim, and for my friend who is a Christian, to play a part in the sale of the Ganeshas made by our school students with utmost dedication and efforts.

**-Shimaaz, Grade 10**

It was a fabulous experience in a new environment, with different teachers and students. It was also a learning experience for us- one which we will cherish. The Lemurs of Epistemo put in all their hard work to make a number of eco-friendly Ganeshas which were passed on to the students of Vikas Concept school. Our main objective was to make people realize that Ganesh chaturti is not just a festival of taking something from earth, but also giving back to nature, and that religion does not matter when it comes to a noble cause. Despite my faith being christian, I enjoyed being part of this whole endeavor, as it gave me the opportunity to appreciate culture, traditions and ways of life that were different from my own. I thank the school, and Principal ma'am for giving us this opportunity.

**-Rashmika, Grade 10**

