

Newsletter

8<sup>th</sup> Edition, January 2022



Dear Students and Parents,

Students after a relaxing Christmas holiday break welcomed the New Year and joined the sessions rejuvenated. January, the month of many holidays, students had lots of fun and family time too.

In Academics-level 2, the students as a part of the topic "Travel and Transport", started the new year by sharing about the Christmas Holiday travel. Few students who didn't travel shared about the place they would like to visit once the pandemic is over. The academics level 1 students explored festivals and their importance in day-to-day life!

The Skill development students have started seeing finished designs and products through their repeated practice and consistency!

The highlight for this month is the Pongal Festival celebrations. Students were allowed to incorporate blended learning during the Pongal Festival Celebration. It was a great event where they showcased their talents and learned the importance of the Pongal Festival and the meaning of each, and every item used during this festival. It was great learning not only for students but for parents and teachers too!

### **EQUIP ENLIGHTEN EMPOWER**

#### A Learning Space for Persons with Different Abilities

To be a heartful centre of holistic learning that heals, enlivens, equips and empowers differently-abled individuals and their families to realize aspirations and potential.



### **HIGHLIGHTS**:

- Life Literacy and Numeracy
- Skill Development
- Blended Learning
- Motor Development
- Aerobics
- Virtual Christmas Celebration

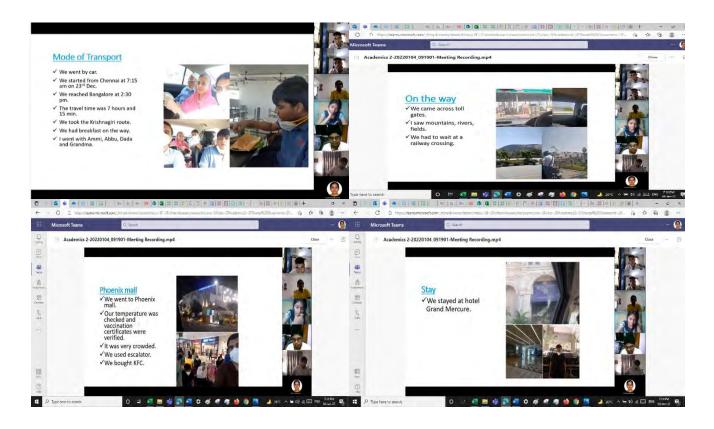




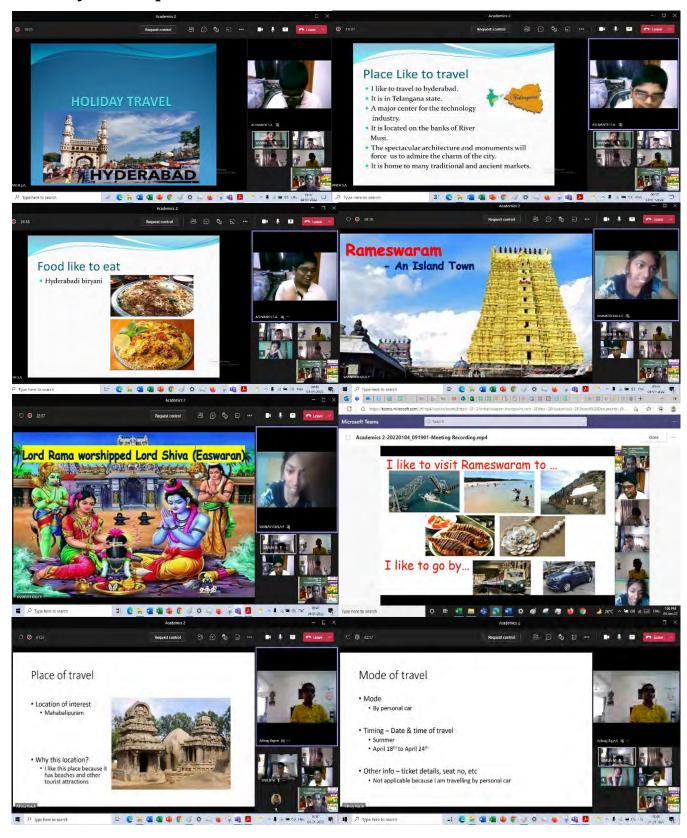
#### Holiday travel presentation:

Functional academic students at Sath Sadhana were encouraged to communicate their experiences and feelings during the online sessions.

As part of initiating communication, the students prepared PowerPoint presentations about the places they visited during the holidays or the place they would like to travel to. Owing to Covid not many had travelled. The rest of the students googled and gathered information about places they would like to visit. They found interesting facts about their chosen destination, their preferred mode of transport, hotel, famous food items, sightseeing places. They shared it during the online session. The students were also encouraged to ask questions to each other. This helped them to understand the reason behind each student's choice of different places they wanted to visit. The session also helped them to become aware of different and interesting sightseeing places and famous foods in different places like Bangalore, Rameswaram, Hyderabad and Mahabalipuram. Overall, it was a good learning and an exciting session.



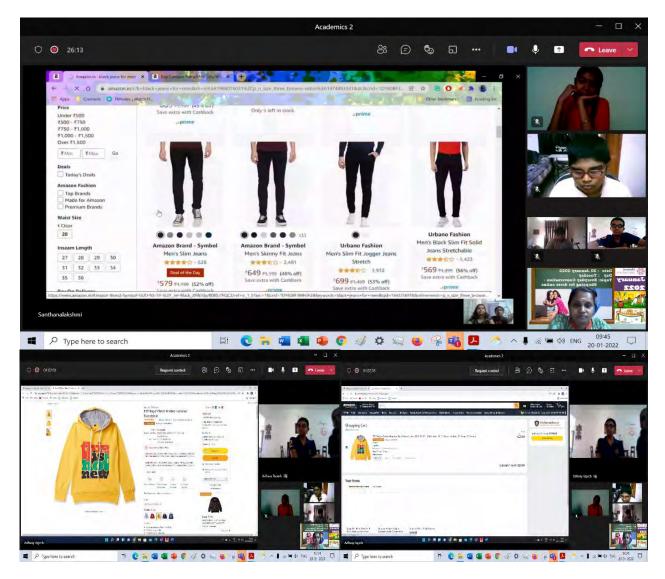
#### Holiday travel presentation:



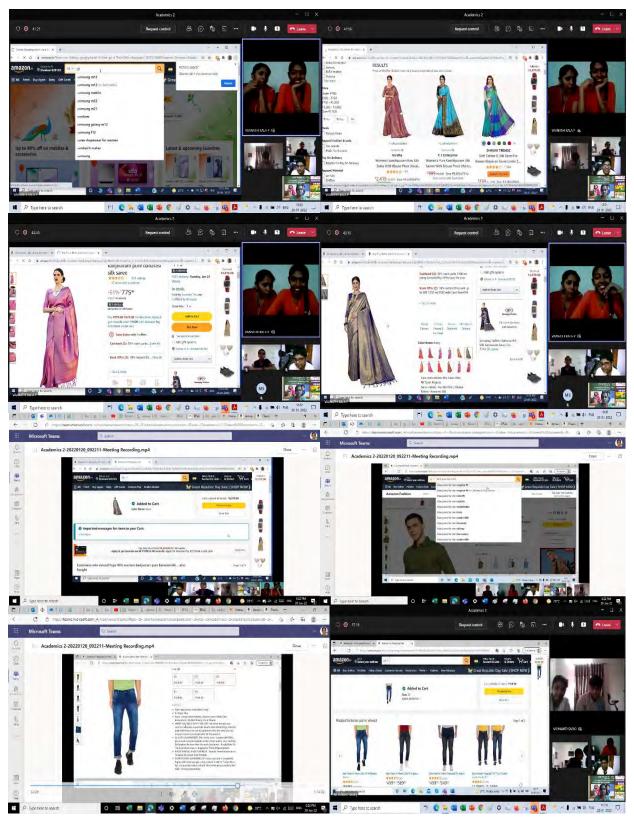
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### **Online Shopping:**

Functional academic students at Sath Sadhana had a mock online shopping experience during their virtual class. After listening to a pre-recorded video on "Buying a dress online", the students along with their mothers were encouraged to mock shopping online, for a dress of their liking. One student wanted to shop for his mother, as it was her birthday the next day. While shopping, they explored different outfits. For the chosen outfit, they looked at the material, size, rating, review and discussed the with their mother. This activity helped them to learn online shopping, also communicate their preferences with their mother. The students and parents enjoyed the activity.

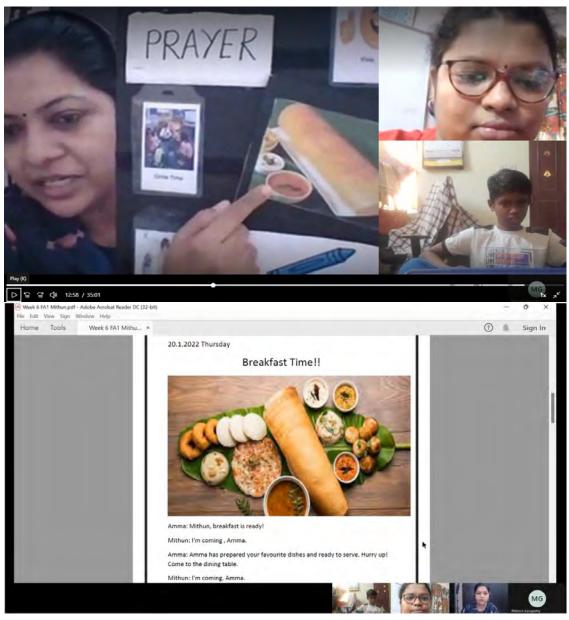


### **Online Shopping:**



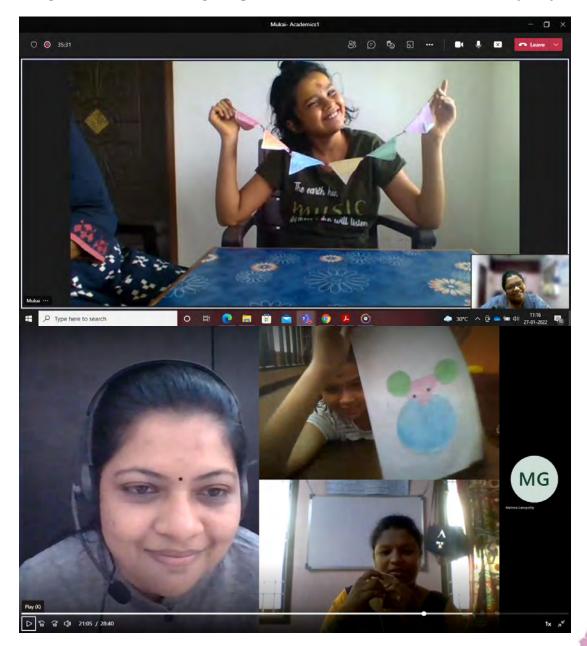
#### Specific themes can increase the sitting tolerance:

To help a new student work on his sitting tolerance, was introduced to "The theme of food", which piqued his interest and enabled him to sit and learn. The approach that we follow at Sath Sadhana is learner-centric so only foods that are relevant to him were introduced. For example, in class, we talked about South Indian breakfast items like idli, dosa, vada, pongal, etc. which was easy for him to relate with and made it easier for him to learn language and maths. Thus, it can be seen how Activity Based Learning under the purview of a student's life, it's a sure way of captivating a student's attention.



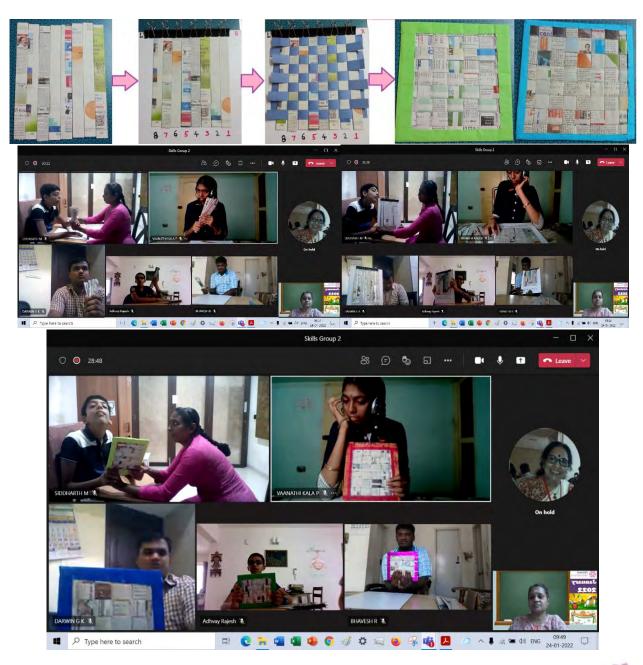
#### Learning shapes through the topic-Festival of the Month:

At Sath Sadhana, a learner-centric approach is followed, and each lesson is crafted based on the student's needs and their likes. One such lesson was teaching the student about different types of shapes. Instead of teaching shapes conventionally, we introduced shapes through art and craft activities which the student is interested in. The student made a thoranam for the Pongal festival which had a lot of shapes and drew her favourite cartoon character Jerry, who is made up of different shapes. This made it easier for the student to understand the differences between different shapes and she is showing interest in locating shapes that she comes to observe every day.



### **SKILL DEVELOPMENT - MATTING**

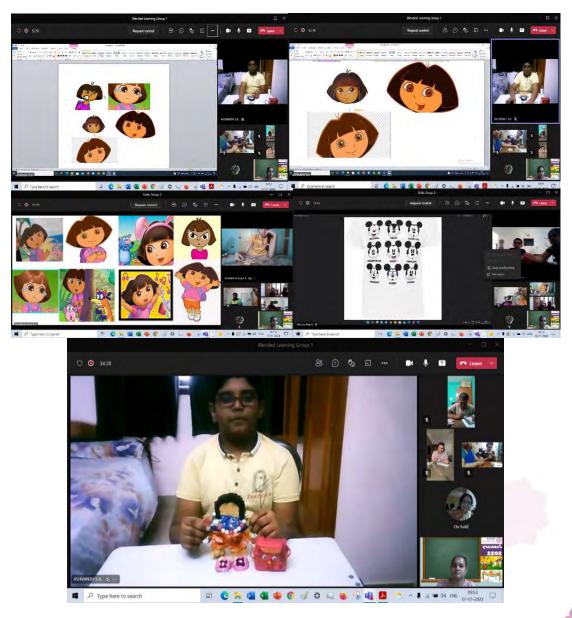
In skill development, students are now able to see their finished designs and products. This has been through their repeated practice and consistency. One such product is 'Table Mats'. As part of a pre-skill activity, the students learned to make newspaper slats. They weaved the newspaper slats, folded the ends, and attached borders to prepare beautiful tablemats. The students patiently learned each and every step with interest. It was a proud moment when they displayed the table mat which they have made from scratch.



## **BLENDED LEARNING**

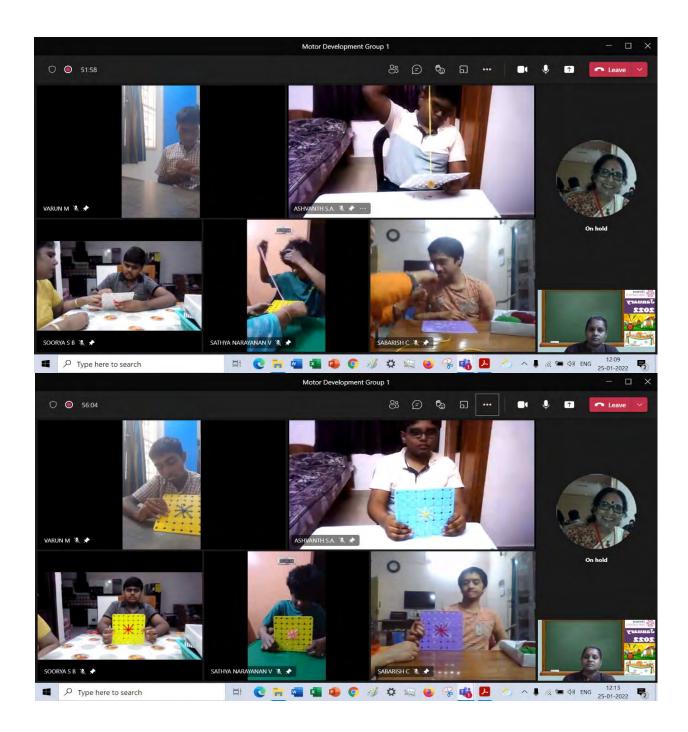
As a part of the blended learning program, students are creating a character of their choice. After designing the dress and the accessories for their character, they have moved on to designing the face. The students were encouraged to browse through the internet and look for different facial expressions for their characters. They were given the freedom to choose the facial expression they like and explain why their character is happy or sad or angry.

This activity helps them to understand the different expressions a person might make. Also, to relate the expression with the actions that take place in life.



## MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

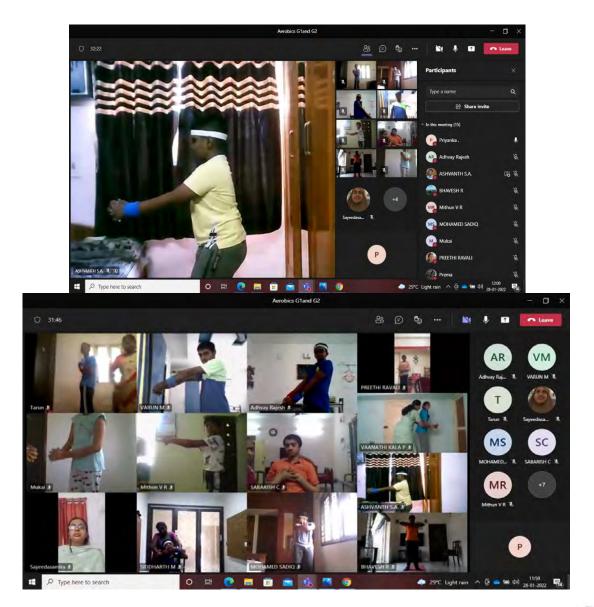
Students have been practicing different lacing patterns like hemming, tacking, cross-stitch, and star-stitch on lacing boards using laces. Now the students are creating lacing patterns using woollen yarn and needles.





## AEROBICS

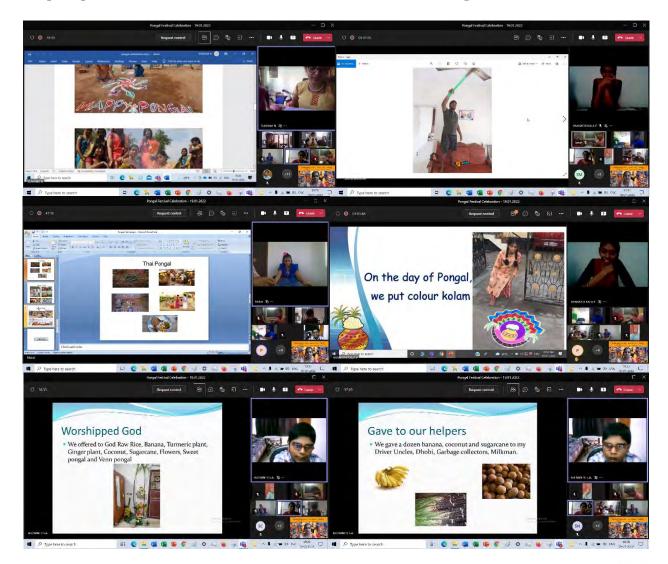
Our students finished practicing upper body aerobics exercises and happily started their **leg exercises**. Leg exercises engage the major muscle groups of your body, which helps to *improve overall muscle performance and support healthy movement patterns* in your daily life. It helps with the development of stronger motor skills in the legs. It also works on flexibility, better coordination, and toning of the muscles. It requires a lot of focus and stability in the body. By learning, children can develop a renewed sense of balance in their movements. This aerobic exercise is fun but also a tricky way to teach a child how to be more focused. This is learned by concentrating on balancing, maintaining consistency.



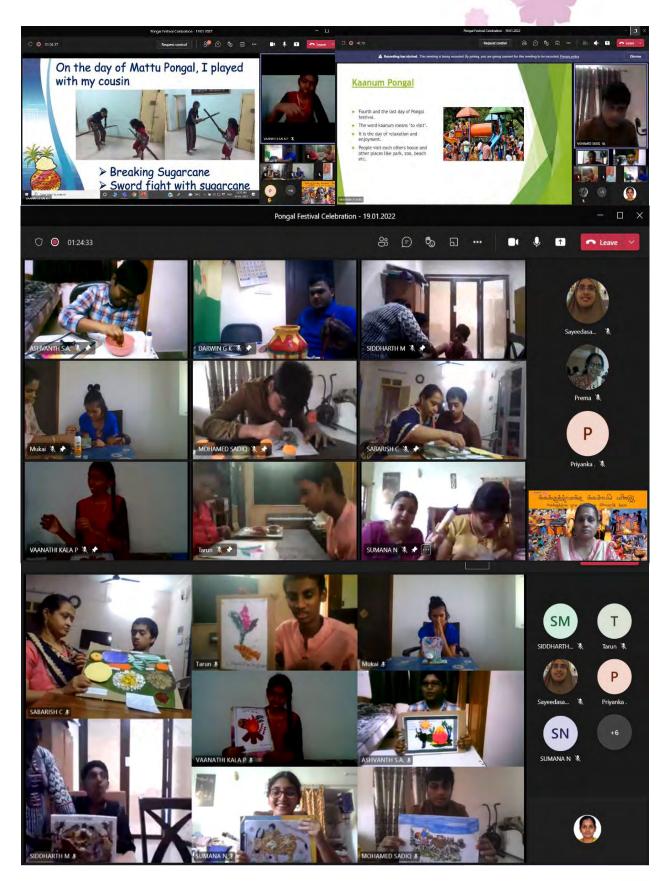
## VIRTUAL PONGAL FESTIVAL CELEBRATION!

#### **!! Learning through Virtual Celebration!!**

Pongal is the harvest festival, our traditional way of thanking nature. We organized a virtual Pongal celebration for the students of CSS incorporating **Blended Learning**. This helped the students to get a deeper sense of our traditional method of celebrating Pongal. For the Ice breaker session - the students shared their experience on "How they Celebrated the Pongal festival?". Individual topics had been given to the students such as Turmeric, Sugarcane, Jallikattu, why New rice & New Pot is used Etc... Students created an Art/Craftwork on their chosen topic and presented it. This helped them enhance their **speaking skill**. The preparation and the presentation process helped provoke the students to work on their **reasoning skills** as well.



# VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!



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It is a pleasure to summarize our events for the month!

As always, we will catch up with you soon with many more interesting developments and programs soon.

Till then stay safe and stay positive!

Cheers and All the best! Chettinad-Sath Sadhana Team



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