

Celebrating Dussehra Through Music, Stories and Reflection

The spirit of Dussehra came alive at S.M.I.L.E. as Santa Marians came together to experience the timeless story of the Ramayana through a musical play presented by Myna A and Myna B in two parts. With a lovely blend of rhythm, music, narration and dialogues, the performance brought the story to life in an engaging way. The grand entries, lively dance sequences and enthusiastic performances made it a joyful experience for both the children on stage and the Santa Marians watching.



The play took everyone through some of the important episodes from the Ramayana. It began with Ram honouring his father's wishes and leaving for vanvaas, accompanied by Sita and Lakshman. Their journey into the forest, the encounter with Shurpanakha and Ravan's decision, led to the events that followed. The story continued with Ravan taking Sita to Lanka, Jatayu's brave attempt to save her, and Ram and Lakshman joining hands with Hanuman and the Vanar Sena to find her. The building of the Setu and the final battle between Ram and Ravan brought the story to a close, sharing the timeless message that good always triumphs over evil.





Before the play, the children were given a brief introduction to the story to help them understand the characters and the situations they would see. Discussions before and after the performance encouraged them to think about the characters' their actions, emotions and choices they made. Children were asked to think and reflect as to what they would have done in a similar situation.

When asked why Shurpanakha became angry, some children thoughtfully shared that she was upset because Ram and Lakshman did not want to be friends with her. This led to a discussion about whether fighting was the right way to handle the situation and what Lakshman could have done differently.



The children also shared what they would do when they felt angry, suggesting that they could take deep breaths or splash water on their faces to calm themselves down. It was lovely to hear them connect the story to their own experiences and come up with such thoughtful responses.

As a follow-up activity, the children made stick puppets of their favorite characters from the Dussehra story. They thoroughly enjoyed creating their puppets and expressing their creativity while revisiting the story in a fun and meaningful way.

The celebration was a beautiful reminder that festivals offer us more than an opportunity to come together; they also help us reflect on values that we can carry into our everyday lives.



Kind regards,

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