

# SANTA MARIA INTEGRATED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

4, GREEN AVENUE LANE, NEW DELHI - 110070

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April - First day at school

The first day at school is a unique experience for every child. It generates feelings of both excitement and anxiety in a child, as well as parents. At this important juncture while children are making a transition from home to school, creating a comfort zone helps children to feel secure even when they are away from home. Therefore the day was planned with simple activities that included informal talks, music and movement, story time and exploration of spaces in the school.

As the buses arrived most children stepped down smiling and walking confidently. They looked around for familiar faces and found comfort as soon as they reached their classrooms.

Once all children were in their classrooms, the teachers greeted them and got them acquainted to spaces like - pigeon-holes, and the various play corners in the class. It took some time for all to settle after which teacher announced a free play. Children explored the play materials in the classrooms and spend time at different corners. Some switched from one corner to the other while some were seen engrossed at one.

## FREE PLAY TIME



## TIFFIN TIME

Soon after that, it was time to go and get acquainted to other space like the water cooler, wash room, music room.



Children walked down to the wash room to wash hands as it was time to sit and eat together. They spread their mats and sat down to eat their tiffin. It was heartwarming to watch them open their tiffin boxes and eat independently. The classrooms soon filled with an epitising aroma of freshly cooked food. In no time children began interacting with each other while having their tiffin. They were curious to look into each others tiffin boxes.



## RECESS TIME

During the recess time they explored the play area outdoors. Here children showed inclination towards different activities like playing in the sand, swinging, going up the jungle gym and jumping in the ball pool.



## CIRCLE TIME

Children sat together for a circle time to express their feelings through a candid interaction with a muppet. It was a delight to see them taking turns to speak and listen to their classmates.



## HANDS -ON -ACTIVITY TIME

Children did their first hands on activity today. They printed inside the Easter egg paper cutouts to make Easter Cards. They thoroughly enjoyed creating colourful patterns.



## STORY TIME

A story session was an ideal time for children to relax and enjoy a story. All children were attentive to the story.



A beautiful day ended with a music session by Christopher Sir. An active participation by all was seen during music and movement. Children sat down to sing the greeting song. They exercised their vocal cords and made simple rhythms with musical instruments. It was a vibrant moment when children got up to do free movements with a song.



We hope that you would have also enjoyed listening to stories and experiences children shared about their first day in school.

It was a yet another memorable day for all of us at Santa Maria.

**Deeksha Thomas**

Principal

Santa Maria School