

Happy Pongal



GATEWAY
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MONTH

PONGAL CELEBRATION

Pongal is an ancient festival of people in South India particularly Tamils. The history of the festival can be traced back to the Sangam Age i.e. 200 B.C. To 300 A.D. Although, Pongal originated as a Dravidian Harvest festival and has a mention in Sanskrit Puranas, historians identify the festival with the Thai Un and Thai Niradal which are believed to have been celebrated during the Sangam Age.

Observance of Pongal During the Sangam Era (Thai Niradal)

The celebrations of Sangam Era led to today's Pongal celebrations. As part of the festivities, maidens of

the Sangam era observed 'PavaiNonbu' at the time of Thai Niradal which was a major festival during the reign of the Pallavas (4th to 8th Century AD). It was observed during the Tamil month of Margazhi (December-January). During this festival young girls prayed for rain and prosperity of the country. Throughout the month, they avoided milk and milk products. They would not oil their hair and refrained from using harsh words while speaking. Women used to bath early in the morning. They worshiped the idol of Goddess Katyayani, which would be carved out of wet sand. They ended their penance on the first day of the month of Thai (January-February). This penance was to bring abundant rains to flourish the paddy. These traditions and customs of ancient times gave rise to Pongal celebrations.

Andal's Tiruppavai and Manickavachakar's Tiruvembavai vividly describe the festival of Thai Niradal and the ritual of observing PavaiNonbu. According to an inscription found in the Veeraraghava temple at Tiruvallur, the Chola King Kiluttunga used to gift lands to the temple especially for the Pongal celebrations.



REPUBLIC DAY

Republic Day is of great historical importance. We got freedom from the British on 15 August 1947, but we were not having any form of government or constitution or political parties. On 26th January 1950, India implemented the Constitution. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was elected as the President of Indian National Congress and PoornaSwaraj was declared on 26th January 1930. However, we got independence on 15 August 1947.

After independence, a special constituent assembly was appointed for making the Constitution of India. Dr B.R Ambedkar led the constitution drafting committee. While creating India's constitution, other countries' constitutions have also been referred to, so as to create the best constitution. After 166 days, the Constitution of India was finally made. It was created in such a manner that all citizens of India could enjoy equal rights pertaining to their religions, culture, caste, sex and creed. On 26th January 1950, the Constitution of India was adopted and implemented, and the day is referred to as Republic Day. Moreover, it marks the end of the British rule and birth of India as a Republic State.

How is Republic Day Celebrated in India?

Republic Day is a national festival and is celebrated on 26th January of every year. This day is declared as a national holiday. People celebrate this day with a lot of zeal and happiness. The President of India hoists the national flag on Rajpath in New Delhi. It is followed by a 21 gun salute and the national anthem. People from all over the country visit the Rajpath to view the grand celebration of Republic Day. The first President who hoisted the flag ceremony was Dr. Rajendra Prasad. In school, colleges, government offices and private organisations, the celebration is enjoyed with full enthusiasm. March past and parade takes place in schools along with the other functions. Many schools distribute sweets to students. Indians across the country celebrate the spirit of freedom and forget the differences between them, such as caste, religion, language and culture.



EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS OF THE MONTH

RED COLOUR DAY

The Kindergarten children from Gateway International School, Neelankarai celebrated Red Colour Day on 10th December 2021.

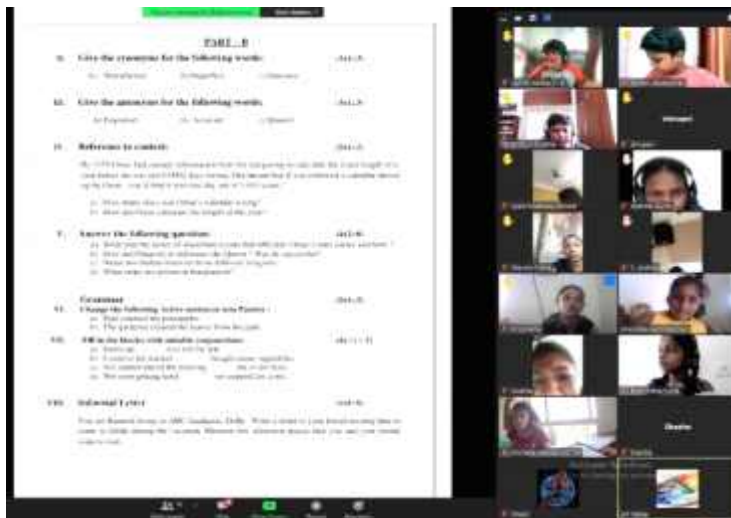
- Children were dressed in amazing Red outfits.
- The Children were taught the Red color song.
- Children participated in colouring Santa and decorated his beard with cotton.
- This activity enhanced the child's Eye and Hand coordination.
- The children had their interactive session on the story of Santa and the Christmas tree ornaments.
- They really enjoyed their activity and performed so well.



THE PULSE

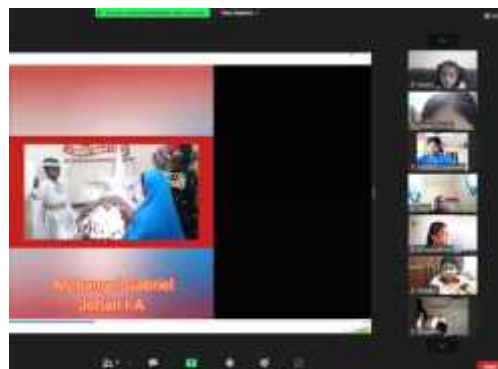
PERIODIC TEST – III

Periodic Tests are conducted on a regular intervals to assess the children of their observation. PT-III test was conducted for children from Grade – I to X from 06.12.2021 to 14.12.2021.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

At GISN, every year Christmas is celebrated to bring in the joy of the season. The teachers organized various programs for children which included dance, skit, fancy show and carols. Christmas was celebrated in virtual platform for Level-1 &2. Level – 3,4&5 celebrated Christmas at school this year. It was such a delight to watch and enjoy the children dressed up for Christmas season and decorating their classrooms with Christmas trees and stars.



THE PULSE

LET'S LEARN SESSION

It is Christmas season the Let's Learn session this month was dedicated to Christmas. The children learnt to colour, draw and make decorative items.



PTM

Parents Teachers Meetings are held periodically after every examination so that the parents get to witness the praises, improvements and concerns raised by the respective subject teachers and help their children improve in the required areas.



TEACHERS' TRAINING SESSION

Teachers' Training sessions are conducted regularly for the teachers at Gateway to be upgraded to the latest methodologies that are followed worldwide. They are taught of various techniques that can be implemented for their effective teaching. This helps our teachers to deliver productive novel knowledge that enhances their teaching skills.



INTER SCHOOL COMPETITION

All India citizens development centre conducted a National level Essay Writing, Hand Writing and Drawing competition on 15th of December, 2021 at our school campus. Children from Kindergarten to Grade – X actively participated in the competition.



THE PULSE

COMPETITION WINNERS

GATEWAY TAKES PRIDE TO ANNOUNCE OUR WINNERS WHO BROUGHT LAURELS TO OUR SCHOOL. WE ENCOURAGE OUR CHILDREN TO REACH GREATER HEIGHTS.

LONG JUMP

Congratulations to Master Srivatsaa of Grade – VIII for securing a gold Medal in “long jump” in the age group of Boys – Under 14, State level competition held at Kanchipuram district on 8th of December, 2021.



ROLLER SKATING

Congratulations to Master Viyan of Grade 2 for bringing laurel to our school by achieving 3rd place in under 7 district level roller skating competition for boys



Congratulations Children!!!

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE TEACHERS

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

A festival that is celebrated by over a billion people worldwide, Christmas is one of the biggest festivals celebrated around the world on the 25th of December every year. Christmas in India is celebrated with equal enthusiasm and passion as in other parts of the world yet has given it its own flavor.

India is a nation of different cultures and the people of India celebrate all major holidays with dedication, and show. Christians of various cults from different areas of India celebrate Christmas in various ways. People of all religions participate in Christmas Celebrations in India. Even in places where there is no Christian population the city has got some attachment or significance so they make a big celebration with sales, food, and goodies.

Significance of Christmas in India:

Christmas is the largest festival for Christians in India. Many people already know about what Christmas signifies. Christians believe that the Saviour of the world was born to a virgin over 2000 years ago to save the world from sinners and bring joy. It is not a specific date for Christmas but it was known as the coldest night of the year. However, the big day for the Christians in India is on the 25th of December every year. This is remembered as Christmas and people spread the message of Christmas - Love, Joy and Cheer.

MS . MUBEEN

Hindi Dept. HOD

பிஞ்சுப்பறவைகளே!..

சட்டென தலைநிமிர்ந்து பார்க்கையில்
விரிந்துகிடக்கிறது வானம்!..
கீச்!..கீச்!.. என்று சத்தமிட்டபடியே
அதிகாலையையும்
அந்திமாலையையும்
பறவைகள் அழகு செய்கின்றன!..

சின்னஞ்சிறு சிறகுகள்
என்ற போதும் கூட
பறவைகள் வானத்தை
அளந்துபார்த்துவிடுகின்றன!..

பறவைகள் ஒரு போதும்
கூண்டுகள் செய்வதில்லை
கூடுகளையே கட்டுகின்றன!..

சிறிது பெரிதுஎனும்
சிறகுகளின் ஒப்பீடுகளால்
வானம் பறவைகள் பறப்பதற்கு தடையேதும்
விதிப்பதில்லை!

பிரியமான
பிஞ்சுப்பறவைகளே!..
முயன்று, தொடர்ந்து
வானத்தை எட்டிப்பிடிக்கும்
ஆசை கொள்ளுங்கள்!..

மெல்ல மெல்ல உங்களுக்குள்
சிறகுகள் முளைக்கத் தொடங்கும்!..

MR . VIJAY KUMAR
Tamil Faculty

PONGAL (The Harvest Festival)

Festivals in India play a predominant role in our diverse tradition and culture. It brings people closer to each other irrespective of state, religion, caste and culture and instils the feeling of patriotism. For the children in India, it is a great way to understand the heritage of our country and the importance of festivals. The time of harvest is very important in India economically, culturally and socially. And this is why the nation celebrates different harvest festivals in different parts of India.

As our age old traditions have gifted us with lot of festivals, Pongal is the grand festival amongst the other major festivals in Tamil Nadu. The festival of Pongal marks the prosperity that comes in the harvest. Celebrating freshly harvested crops can appear weird to the entire world, but for our nation, it is more than important. The connection between humans and nature is the core part of this pious festival.

Pongal which is also known as Thai Pongal, is a harvest festival celebrated in the month of January commemorating the hard work of our farmers. It is dedicated to the Hindu sun god, Surya. The word “Pongal” means “boiling over” or “overflow”. It involves a four day festival as each day refills with special festive activities.

Bhogi Pongal: The first day of the Pongal festival is celebrated as Bhogi Pongal. On this day, the old clothes and materials are thrown away and fired, marking the beginning of a new life.

Surya Pongal: It is the second day of the festival. This day is celebrated by boiling fresh milk along with freshly harvested grains and jaggery early in the morning and allowing it to boil over the earthen pot - a tradition that is the literal translation for Pongal. When the dish starts to boil and overflow over the earthen pot, it is considered that the family is blessed in abundance with happiness and wealth. The cooked dish is offered to the sun god, Surya. People also decorate their homes with banana leaves, mango leaves and sugarcane. They prepare savouries, sweets and visit each other's homes, and exchange greetings.

Mattu Pongal: Mattu Pongal is the third day of the Pongal festival. It is meant to offer thanks to the cows, as they are used to plough the lands. On this day Tamil devotees worship their cattle. They decorate the cattle with garlands, turmeric, and other holy items. The popular sport Jallikattu or bull – taming sport will be held on this auspicious day. It is a 2000 years old traditional spectacle in which a bull is released into a crowd and the participants attempt to grab the hump of it in order to climb to remove the coins or flags placed on the bull's horn.

Kaanum Pongal: Kaanum Pongal is the last day of the grand Pongal festival. On this day people visit each other's home and spend quality time with their family and loved ones.

However, the perspective of the Pongal festival shows the strength of the nation pertaining to religion, culture and humanity above all. As long as humanity and humanism survives, Pongal festival will continue to speak widely through its celebration of togetherness and unity.

MS. BENITA ANGELINE

Admission Incharge

THE PULSE

Jan 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		School reopens after Winter Holidays				PTM - 3
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				Pongal Holidays Begin		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		School reopens after pongal				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Republic Day		Interhouse Contest - 3	Awareness Program - VI
30	31					

	NO WORK DAY
	SPECIALLY OBSERVED DAYS
	EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS
	CONTESTS
	AWARENESS PROGRAMS
	EXAMINATIONS
	CPD - CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

For any queries & suggestions please contact

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Principal's - Ph : 7867000800

principalgism@gatewaytheschool.in / www.gatewayschools.edu.in

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MONTH

International Women's Day

International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating women's equality. IWD has occurred for well over a century, with the first IWD gathering in 1911 supported by over a million people.

