

Prep's Visit to the National Book Trust

A report by Nisha Sharma, mother of Avika Prep B with inputs from other parent volunteers

To inculcate the habit of reading, a visit to NBT was organised by the school. Children were super excited to know that they will get to choose and buy a story book on their own. They waited eagerly for the day of the visit.

As a ritual, the circle time to explain the dos and don'ts during the visit was done with the children. Children shared their opinions and said;

"Mujhe pata hai NBT ek badi si library hai jahan bahut sare books honge."

"Book shop meh shout nahi kar sakte"

"I love books and I have many books at home but I will buy a new one."

"Jaise post office ka yellow logo dekha tha NBT ka logo leaf jaisa hai."

On September 16, 2022, children of Santa Maria School visited the National Book Trust. The staff of National Book Trust had the whole team ready for the group of 74 children, 4 teachers, 4 parent volunteers. We were welcomed by a banner that was specially made for us. Children noticed it and said, "Look! Santa Maria School. It is our school".



The NBT team escorted the children to the conference room on the third floor. It was a delight to see children practising the ritual of climbing the stairs from the left.

A story telling session was organised for the children in the hall. The beautiful narration of the story '**The Seven Sun**' by the storyteller **Ms. Jayshree** mesmerised the children. The voice modulation by the storyteller made the children laugh and kept them engrossed throughout the narration. The story telling session was a hit as every child wanted to be a part of it. They even told Ms Jayshree to tell another story from her 'story ka pitara'. On popular demand, she narrated the story "Khichari".



After some time, you could hear children asking each other, “When are we going to buy the books”? That was the sigh that the children wanted to see the library. NBT team accompanied the children to the library on the ground floor.

Children were super excited to see so many books. A child picked up ‘Ramayan’ from the adult section and said “I know this book, It’s in my home too”.



NBT team showed and explained that the library is divided into various sections – Hindi / English / regional (on the bases of language) and kids (1-6 years) and more.

One child asked the NBT team, “I like dragons, where can I find a book on dragons”? Children very super excited to choose their own book by looking at the cover page.

We could hear children saying, “It has butterfly on it, I love butterflies, I will buy this book”. Others said “where did you pick this book, I also want the same book”. Children helped each other in selecting the book. They patiently stood in the line, with the book in their hand, waiting for their turn to buy it.



Later a colouring session was organised by NBT team. Each child was given a set of sketch pens and a printed colouring sheet. Children showed their colouring skills by coloring the picture neatly. They were delighted to know that they can take the sketch pens home.



Children were overjoyed and were delighted to eat a vegetable sub, sweet and juice.



The children had a fun trip which was exciting and informative. It was also nice to see that through these trips children also learnt basic lessons like walking in a line, helping each

other, waiting for their turn, etc. The teachers and all the support staff ensured that while the children enjoyed the trip, they learnt new things and were respectful and kind to everyone, including the books.

We could make out that the trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all children as they were heard saying: -

"These NBT people are nice people they gave us gifts." (books)

"It was the most super-duper fun visit I ever had".

And indeed, it was a great trip!