

BILINGUAL LITERATURE APPRECIATION STUDENT SERIES (BLISS)



Showing of pupils' talent in dramatization



Pupils involved in a performance in our ALP, BLISS!

Aligned to Greenwood Primary's vision of nurturing pupils to be Motivated Learners, Critical Thinkers and Leaders of Character, and mission of nurturing individuals to be lifelong learners, we have planned a literature appreciation programme for our pupils, BLISS. Our pupils are introduced and required to practise Socratic Questioning (SQ) and Philosophy for Children (P4C) to develop 21st century skills such as inventive and critical thinking, collaboration, communication and information skills and also construct meaning and opinions relating to the real world.

Outcomes:

Pupils are able to appreciate literature to:

- use thinking routines to generate ideas and explore different pathways to an issue /challenge
- use evidence to explain his/her reasoning and decisions
- accept different perspectives, solutions and / or methods, even in the face of uncertainty
- form opinions in relation to the global issues related to Singapore and other countries
- internalise the school values of Wise, Enterprising, Gracious, Resilient, Responsible, and Open.

Approach for BLISS in EL and MT

BLISS is targeted at all pupils of GWPS and will run from Term 1 to Term 3. In the delivery of the lessons, teachers use thinking routines to facilitate discussion based on carefully chosen texts or books. Teachers also use Socratic Questioning (SQ) and Philosophy for Children (P4C) alongside the thinking routines to stimulate pupils thinking, enabling them to see things from different perspectives, evaluate the information and thoughts, and leading them to reflect about their thinking.

GWPS implements BLISS during the EL and MT Comprehension lessons. For the BLISS lessons, e-books, illustrated books, selected texts and novels are used for different levels to expose pupils to different literature genres. About 15% of the curriculum time in a year is set aside for BLISS lessons. SQ (using Paul's wheel of reasoning) and P4C are incorporated in customised lesson plans for teachers to engage pupils in different levels of thinking and discussions while conducting the lessons.



Primary 4 Tamil Solai Character Portrayal



Pupils acting out a drama after attending the BLISS camp



Pupils role-playing in front of their peers

Department Activities

The English Language and Mother Tongue Language department aims to cultivate the love for literature by providing knowledge to the pupils regarding the elements of literature as well as good values. Different types of literary texts such as folklore, moral stories, nursery rhymes, traditional children songs and poetry were introduced to pupils at different levels. Pupils learnt storytelling techniques, presentation skills and dramatizing. They were also given the opportunity to showcase their talent in singing, poetry rendition, role-playing and storytelling during department activities such as EL Fiesta and inter-class competitions during Mother Tongue Language Fortnight and Tamil Solai.



Learning values through stories



Primary 4 pupil doing a poetry rendition for the inter-class competition during Mother Tongue Fortnight 2016



Proud winners of the Primary 1 Nursery Rhyme Rendition!

RESULTS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Milestone Achievement

Project Work

The Project Work Curriculum provides a platform for pupils to apply thinking skills and develop their 3Cs competencies namely Curiosity, Confidence and Cooperation. The progress of the pupils' attainment in 2016 is as shown below:

- 98.3% of the pupils are able to demonstrate a lively curiosity about things in life and use different thinking skills to solve problems.
- 97.9% of the pupils are able to communicate effectively and deal comfortably with ambiguity.
- 98.5% of the pupils are able to use appropriate skills to build positive relationships and work effectively with different people.
- 98.8% of the pupils are able to apply the various thinking skills when working on a given task.

ACM Learning Journey

The Learning Journey organised this year received positive response from both our pupils and their parents. More than 90% of our pupils and parents who went on the Learning Journey to ACM felt that the Learning Journey:

- Has met the objectives of engaging our pupils as well as the parents to appreciate historical bearing on character development.
- Provides an opportunity for parents to bond with their children and to be involved in their learning.
- Helps foster a stronger relationship between parents and their children.
- Reinforces the school values: Wise, Enterprising, Gracious, Responsible, Resilient, Open (WEGR²Ow).

Partnership

The school established strong partnerships with external partners to work towards our school's vision, mission and values. The feedback given by the external partners is given below:

100% of the partners felt that:

- The school collaborates with the external partners to achieve the shared vision, mission and values.
- They have helped the school to give opportunities for our pupils to participate in community activities/ programmes.
- Our pupils were given the opportunity to understand the importance of serving the community.
- They support the school's effort in promoting the school's vision, mission and values.

Comments from Our Strategic Partners:

Greenwood Primary School's multicultural performances at our hospital's main lobby enhances the healing and therapeutic environment for our patients. - **KTPH**

The school has done a very comprehensive programme by doing surveys and also involving parents in the process. - **ACM**

Great job! The kids are very interactive and a joy to work with! - **Participant from Kampung Wellness (Together, We Can Make a Difference)**

Future Directions

Moving ahead, pupils who show an aptitude for Socratic Questioning and a flair to critically examine Philosophical questions will be shortlisted to take part in cluster and national debate competitions. The school is also looking into a camp to further develop pupils' ability to think critically and explore global issues collaboratively.

Teacher's Reflection

As some Primary 1 pupils are more fluent in English, BLISS programme has provided an avenue for them to learn children traditional songs, an experience that is very new and unique for them. Through BLISS, pupils are able to learn and love the Malay language through a fun approach. Their knowledge is broadened and they are no longer limited to using the Malay Language as found in their workbooks and textbooks. They are now more aware that Malay Language is dynamic and exists in various intrinsic ways. - **Mdm Siti Fadiah**

Pupil's Reflection

I really enjoy singing the nursery rhymes in class with my friends. I have learnt to sing many different songs during my Tamil lessons. I used to be very shy in class and I don't speak in Tamil at home much. But now I sing these songs to my parents when I go home. They are very happy and proud of me! - **Reddiyar Sarashree, 1 Care (2016)**

I enjoyed the BLISS camp as I had made many friends from other classes. Given the opportunity to put up a show on stage, I went through and understood the preparation work behind the scene. The learning experience improved my confidence greatly and I am able to express myself better in public. - **Tan Xin Xuan, 4 Innovation (2016)**

Greenwood Primary School ALP & LLP Publication (Issue 1)

BLISS-ful WHIZZ in the Woods!

Bilingual Literature Appreciation Student Series



Enchanting Experiences at Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM)!



HDB Good Neighbours Project 2016 - Gracing the occasion - Mr Vikram Nair, MP Sembawang GRC



GWPS Student Leaders demonstrating the use of the interactive panel to Ministers, Mr Khaw Boon Wan and Mr Ong Ye Kung, and Speaker of Parliament, Mdm Halimah Yacob



Visit by Dr Janil Puthucherry, Minister of State



Celebrating Owlets 2016

