

## **DEEPAWALI CELEBRATION – ASSEMBLY THEME**

<u>From darkness to the light that empowers us to commit ourselves to good deeds, that</u> <u>which brings us closer to divinity; lights illuminate every corner of India during Diwali</u> <u>and the scent of incense sticks hang in the air, mingled with the sounds of fire-crackers,</u> <u>joy, togetherness and hope.</u>

The celebration of Diwali, 'The festival of lights' came alive at National Public School, Kengeri, Bengaluru - from 24th Oct, 2016 to 28th Oct, 2016.

Every day, the assembly started with the Morning Prayer followed by the thought for the day, news headlines, GK Questions and "Indian Festival Deepavali - a unique expression of the spirit of celebration".

All the students of Grade 9 'A' attired in traditional dresses conducted the assembly. The children informed the gathering about the history of this festival and the amazing facts related to it.

The participants also listed the many ways in which Diwali is celebrated internationally. For example Diwali diyas are lit every year by the President at the White House, in America. While in Australia it is held at the Federation Square and many iconic buildings are decorated to make it the biggest celebration there. Students also spoke about the ways in which Diwali is celebrated in different parts of India.

Students made the audience aware that Diwali is a five days festival.

Students enacted the skits, the story of Yamadeepdaan and Narakachathurdashi. Students also gave a message; Diwali is celebrated to mark the return of Lord Rama to Ayodhya after an exile of fourteen years. They told them that people decorate their houses with diyas and candles. They exchange gifts and sweets with their family and friends.

The last day's assembly on 'Diwali' was to create awareness about the various facets of this profound festival. They exhorted their fellow friends to say 'No to crackers' because besides encouraging child labour, crackers add a lot to air and noise pollution.

The venue was also dotted with students enacting an awareness skit depicting the ill effects of burning crackers. While speaking about the traumatic conditions of children of Sivakasi the anchors promised, on behalf of their fellow friends, to celebrate an eco-friendly Diwali this year.

The highlight of the 5 days assembly was to be each the audience to discard the inner 'Ravans' of pride, untruth, greed and ill feeling by awakening their inner 'Rams' of goodness, truthfulness, wisdom and belief. It was quite an apt wakeup call considering the prevailing atmosphere of intolerance. Students' effort in presenting the assembly was wholeheartedly appreciated by our principal Mrs. Geeta Dikshit. The assembly concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.



