

# THE LEARNERS HIVE



# THE LEARNERS DISPOSITION

## Why Holistic Well-being is of Paramount Importance at Learners

A school's educational curriculum must help every child find their unique place in the world in alignment with their uniqueness. To achieve this, the holistic development and well-being of a child are of utmost importance. The idea of academic excellence often puts a lot of pressure on them to excel, perform or be at the conventionally defined best behavior.

But times are changing - **a person's individuality, values, and well-being are the need of the hour. Academic excellence alone can no longer assure success and happiness. Hence, overall well-being should be focused on from early on in a child's life.**

Conventional educational and learning systems aim at the development of intellectual capabilities only. But at Learners - especially with LEEP - our curriculum and pedagogy focus on holistic growth and well-being. **We aim to develop physical capabilities, intellectual abilities, cognitive or mental abilities, emotional abilities, and social skills of our learners to help them become capable of facing not just their careers but lives better.**

At Learners, **we aim to give every child a safe space where they can grow academically and emotionally.** With a Holistic Wellbeing counselor and coach, wellbeing sessions embedded in every cycle and a Reflection period at the end of every academic day, **we allow every child the space to feel joy and express emotions freely. We aim to instil curiosity, effective communication and social skills in our learners and the entire community. Through various activities like yoga, cooking, theatre, dance, we focus on values like empathy, mindfulness and gratitude that allow them to be more at peace with themselves and those around them.** By making their learning natural, easy, playful, and engaging, the holistic approach encourages them to connect with all the subjects, use their creative skills, and grow psychologically, socially, and emotionally.





## Deconstructing Gender Myths at an Early Stage

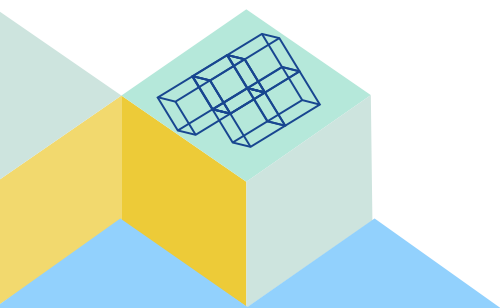
**Not only should our education system be ready to deal with gender-diverse children, but our children should also be made aware of gender and its norms early on in their lives.** These concepts are subject to early intervention in young learners' lives.

**"Discussing gender openly can help kids feel more confident in themselves and supported by their parents and caregivers. Teachers, parents and caregivers should know that it is never too early to start teaching a kid about gender",** says Dr. Christy Oleszki, director of Yale's pediatric gender program.

**Paying attention to how children from different genders treat each other can also help negate the impact of gender stereotypes.** If a girl acts differently from the pre-defined gender norms, she's labeled as "tom-boyish" and a boy can be teased or bullied for being "girly". We must begin by realizing that gender stereotypes and myths don't favour any gender and often cause mistrust and bitterness between genders.

**We all must accept our kids as they are without labeling them. This will also help them be more open and friendly to each other, which will solve many gender-related troubles** that they face at schools and beyond. Gender equality at an early stage gives equal opportunities for growth and development to each child. **When children are treated and spoken to in an equal way, they grow the same way. This fuels their confidence, and they go on and create equal spaces for others when they grow up.**

**We at Learners have been very mindful of this while designing our curriculum. We practise gender-inclusivity through our language, actions, content and activities.** If the same is replicated at home, we can build a better, more beautiful world with equal breathing and growing space for children of all genders.



## LATEST EVENTS

### PARENTS' ORIENTATION (APRIL 3rd)

The parents of the Learners community visited the school for the orientation session to flag off the first term. Parents were briefed on learners community's philosophies, beliefs and pedagogy, and on what we have in store for our learners over the year and the first unit. Class facilitators spent time orienting them with plans and structures put in place and fielded all their questions. natural light in, making the room a favorite for the learners.



### SESSION COMMENCEMENT (APRIL 5th)

Our class (virtual) finally began! The learners and teachers got to know each other better. Our facilitators ensured that our learners settled in easily and quickly. The session commencement was warm and easy for our learners and a memorable day for all.



### VIRTUAL CLASSES

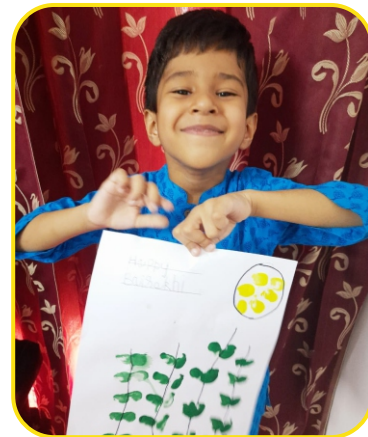
We, at Learners International, have been seeing virtual classes running this whole month. Our first term, April-May, has been progressing with ease and effectiveness. The month has been full of engaging activities for a better kickstart to the most crucial year for our learners. It's heartwarming to see how our learners and facilitators have both settled in and adapted to each other, making room for happier classrooms.



## LATEST EVENTS

### **VAISAKHI (April 14th)**

To celebrate Vaisakhi and educate our learners about it, we at Learners conducted art-based activities for our learners to mark the occasion. There were lots of beautiful work circulated in classes across the school, and we all learned about the festival, its origin and its importance in our lives.



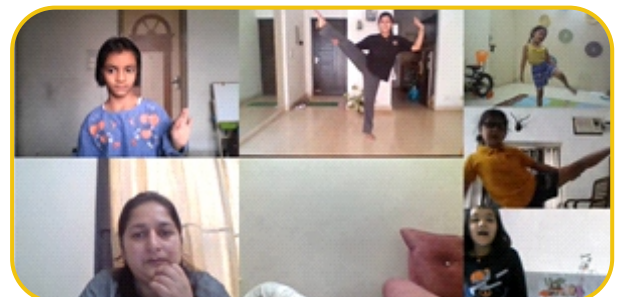
### **EARTH DAY (April 22nd)**

As human beings, the earth is the most extensive backbone we have, it is our collective home and it was essential for all of us at Learners to celebrate this beautiful day. Earth Day was observed across all the classrooms, the activities and lessons being all about and around it. Along with the regular classes and being taught more about our planet, we also encouraged our learners to become more aware and critical about solutions for a healthier earth.



### **INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY (April 29th)**

We, at Learners, consider art as one of our pillars, and International Dance Day was celebrated throughout the school. Both, our learners and our team of facilitators got together and the day flagged off the day through dance sessions led by our dance facilitator Ms. Shambhavee. We focused on how dance can add so much joy and openness to our lives. Dance acted as a reminder for all of us that day to stay positive and together during such times.



# COMMUNITY VOICES

## LEARNINGS FROM YOUNG LEARNERS

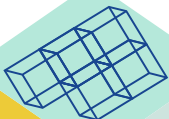
We asked our Young learners - What do you like about art classes? Share with us about your favourite artwork.

I love drawing and painting. I didn't know about the various art forms but Sreshta Ma'am told me about many forms of art. I learnt Zen Art and Abstract Art from her. I love to do that I want to learn more forms of art from her. - Lubhani Goyal



In Art Class, I like to paint special with watercolor, special paint drop, splatters of glue. I enjoy creating something new -Abisha

I like making tomatoes, apples and filling them with colour red in art class. I drew a sun and made its ears, nose and eyes. - Gurbani



# COMMUNITY VOICES

## LEARNINGS FROM YOUNG LEARNERS

We asked our Young learners - What is your favorite thing about online classes? They had some endearing responses!

I love attending visual art classes with my facilitators. This is my recent artwork, which I really enjoyed doing- Shubhi



I like sticking inside the object craft and water color painting. I create nice pictures and objects in art class. I love coloring and drawing in the class more than the other activities.  
- Yuvraj

I love my art class the most. My ma'am let me do all different kinds of craft and drawing. I just love playing with colours.... I did drawings of Sea, Water animals, Nature, Earth, Rainbow, Bottle painting, and Pebbles painting. Pebble painting was my favourite. I am always excited for my art class.  
- Aaradhya



## TALK FROM OUR TEAM

**We asked our facilitators - Which is one of your most memorable moments from online facilitation? Let's find out!**



**SRESTHA TIWARI**

“So, last week, I had a session, ‘Pranav ka school mein pehla din’ which revolved around our learners' first day at school, what they look forward to the most, how many friends they have, etc. And Lubhani, one of the young learners, said that she didn't have any friends, not from the school or around it. But then she said that I was her first friend from school. It was heart-warming. Aradhya referred to me as a friend, too. So glad to have found friends in such beautiful young learners. It is through them that I think of things simply and take it all lightly as they do. The world is not as complicated as we make it to be sometimes.”

“The best incident that happened to me when I got back to work after recovering from Covid. Two of my first students at Learners, Aparna and Seerat, told me how much they missed me. And it was so endearing because it's not like we've spent a great deal of time together as yet, but the connection felt so strong. I think their love amplified my recovery.”



**SIMRAN DOGRA**



**HARDIKA SAKHUJA**

“A memorable and cherished moment with one of my learners was when I was discussing with her what a bird feeder is and in these tough times, it's the animals who suffer more but their suffering goes unnoticed. She came up with her opinion immediately that humans can communicate, but animals cannot and hence, devised a bird feeder and installed it against a tree, because according to her it's the spot for animals and birds.”



## TALK FROM OUR TEAM



**CHITRA**

“My career began at Learners, so it is already special for me. But what adds to that are the many instances that have humbled me, like an incident where Tarun, a learner, told me that even when at home he thinks of me. His mother also once mentioned that he designed a Spell-Ex game and wanted to name it after me! Once, on being asked about the best part of his day, he drew a sandwich and my stick figure. It is such moments that make me feel like our existence as teachers in their lives goes beyond the premise of

“I remember we were taking a session and Aparna walked into the class. On seeing her, Shubhi's reaction was so cute. She instantly told her sister that “please go, these are my teachers!”. I am delighted that with such young learners, Ms Pratiti and I have made that connection in online teaching in just one and a half months. I am so glad to be their facilitator and happier to know that they hold us in that place.”



**ANJALI BASSI KAMPANI**



**SHAMBHAVEE SHARMA**

“One of my most memorable moments has to be an art session I took with my girls, Aparna and Seerat, where I asked them to make a card for each other. I suggested that they find out what the other person likes and include that in the card, rather than making what they like themselves. Thereupon, the two of them spent the entire session asking each other the most wonderful and genuine questions, and I was hardly needed! It hasn't been so long since they first met, and they're already so kind and friendly to each other, which is precious.”

## PERSPECTIVES FROM PARENTS



“Yuvraj was never fond of dancing, but ever since he began taking classes from Ms. Shambhavee, he started to dance daily. And I'm the happiest about it. I see in him many little changes, can't thank the teachers at Learners enough.”



**Ms. Sudha Agarwal, Parent of Yuvraj**



“She has started to participate in different activities and enjoys them!”



**Ms. Neha Bhardwaj, Parent of Shubhi**



## PERSPECTIVES FROM PARENTS



“There has been a tremendous transformation in Gurbani in a positive way. She has started to observe things from a different perspective where she connects them with her class learnings. If she has learnt of a shape, she tries to relate it with everyday objects like soaps, boxes, etc. She has also begun helping me in household chores. Whenever she spots a word, she relates it to the alphabets in it.



**Ms Kamalpreet Kaur Kochar, Parent of Gurbani Kaur Nayyar**



“Lubhani's sentence-formation and vocabulary have gotten rich ever since she began going to Learners.”



**Ms. Anjali Goyal, Parent of Lubhani**

