

Desh Vandanam

Bal Gangadhar Tilak said, " Swaraj is my birth right and I shall have it." And so, we did. 74 years ago, on August 15, India gained independence from the shackles of British rule. The freedom that we enjoy today is the result of pure hard work, dedication and sacrifices of thousands of people.

Every year on August 15, the whole of India comes together to celebrate our independence and commemorate those who fought for our freedom.

This year, to celebrate the 74th Independence Day, PSBB Siruseri organized the virtually held Desh Vandanam, an IMCT initiative, on 17th August. The chief guest was Mrs. Hemalatha Seshadri, the Principal of PSBB Millennium School, Coimbatore. The event was also attended by the students and teachers of PSBB Siruseri, our Principal, our Headmistress, Dean and Director& Correspondent of PSBB group of schools Mrs. Sheela Rajendra, along with the heads and teacher representatives of other branches.

The programme commenced with a soulful rendition of a prayer invoking the blessings of Bharath matha . The welcome address was followed by a riveting Tamil speech on the history of Independence Day. The powerful speech was informative and it aroused feelings of patriotism. From speeches, dramas, musical tributes to dances from various states and video presentations, every effort screamed patriotism.

Throughout the week, the spirit of Independence was palpable. A series of events for different grades were organised. Finger painting, card making, ppt presentations, essay writing, video making and many other events took place.

Is hoisting and unfurling the flag, the same? We got the opportunity to listen to a much-needed explanation regarding this aspect. *Vocal for Local* and other projects implemented by our government aim at achieving a self-reliant India. A video about India's various achievements and baby steps towards a self-reliant India was presented by the senior students.

The primary students dressed up as freedom fighters of South India rendered their famous dialogues eloquently. It was amazing and we were reminded of the unimaginable sacrifices those legends made for our freedom. These historical figures will always be remembered for their dedication and passion towards our country.

All of this captured how despite being so diverse in the forms of traditions and cultures, everyone is united under the identity of being an 'Indian' .

Our chief guest, Mrs. Hemalatha Seshadri, gave an inspiring speech. She spoke about Independence Day and how we can all come together and build an egalitarian society. "Stay grounded, have strong faith in the oneness of our nation," she said.

She also spoke about AIR: Accountability, Integrity and Responsibility echoing the motto of Dr. Mrs. YGP. The founder of PSBB group of schools was immensely missed during the event. The Dean in her message highlighted the need for responsibility while enjoying the freedom. The programme came to a conclusion with the national anthem which was played on the key board. Although the event was conducted online, the zest and the energy of the offline celebrations could be felt.

Independence Day is an important day in the lives of every Indian. It reminds us of the perseverance and strength of our ancestors and the value of our mother land with her rich culture. Let us all work together to build a safe, self-reliant, egalitarian and a green India. We are truly proud to be Indians. And it is our cultural roots that keep us united no matter what.

**"Freedom in the mind,
Faith in the words;
Pride in our souls"
JAI HIND!**

Freedom fighters come alive



Freedom fighters come alive



Dance forms of India



The Chief Guest addressing the audience



Dean conveying her Independence day Message



Sare Jahan Se Accha – played on the Keyboard



Shutterbugs

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&
Gayathri.P
XB1
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