



THE COMMUNIQUE FROM LIFE

January, 2018



PRINCIPAL'S TALK



Ms. Kalpana Dhareshwar,

Principal – Mother's Pet Kindergarten School,
Nagpur

THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

POWER OF PLAY - THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

Mother's pet Kindergarten is a 40-year-old early childhood Centre in Nagpur with almost 2000 children in its fold. What sets us apart is, the importance that play occupies in the teaching-learning process. We coined a new word **"JQ" the Joy Quotient**, which has become our mantra. If a child comes to school crying, it is a cause for a serious concern. There is 'Joy' only when ample opportunities are given for PLAY. Early Childhood curriculum is about the holistic development of the child. It is the time to build skills- fine and motor besides speech and language.

PLAY is Powerful. Research has shown that play develops physical and emotional strength. It leads to healthy brain development with immense cognitive benefits. Have you seen the concentration on a child's face as s/he creates her/his dream castle? What creativity, what imagination as they hunt for leaves, flowers, shells and pebbles to decorate their architectural masterpiece.

Children learn not only leadership skills but become good followers while playing in group games. They learn the importance of sharing and allows the others to take turns. In my 25 years as an early childhood practitioner, I have never seen any child push another one as s/he carefully negotiates the rungs on the slide. Besides body balance, there is an innate sense of self preservation and respecting another individual's space. Play is a cherished part of childhood. The pure joy as children race all over the grass is a cherished memory for the teacher too. Strong bonds between teacher and child, and child to child are forged during play. It is heartwarming to see the little child "prepare" a cup of tea for his/her, teacher/friend or cook "pav bhaji" on the cooking range in the toy corner.

Our time table has designated time for outdoor play, water play, toy play, soft gym, parachute play, music, dance besides math, language, storytelling etc. When play is learning, learning becomes play. Children perceive learning as engaging and fun, not a drudgery or a chore; thus, making future learning too an enjoyable activity. Opportunities for play happen if you look for them. Reinforcing identification of the letters of the alphabet, numbers, akshars, colours are done through games like musical chairs, fire in the mountain, hop scotch and innumerable games designed by the teachers; every module of learning has play as an integral part. Our teachers have created board games to develop various skills which is a part of our Morning Routine, during breaks and when an activity is completed.

AT MOTHER'S PET WE TAKE PLAY VERY SERIOUSLY.



THIS SPOT IS EMPTY FOR READ BOOK SECTION

WHAT HAPPENED @ LIFE IN DECEMBER 2018 & JANUARY 2019?

LIVE@FIVE



Our first Live@Five was launched on the 14th of December 2018. Ms.Priya Aarya was our first guest speaker. She spoke on the topic “Emotional well being of teachers & following the rule of attachment and detachment”.

Ms. Priya Aarya is an Emotional Strategist & Founder Smilofy.

[Click to watch the video](#)

START

LIVE@FIVE



Ms. Gayathri Ananth, was our guest speaker for the month of January, she spoke on the topic “How to talk to about developmental concerns - a session for educators and child care providers”

Ms.Gayathri Ananth is an early interventionist and educationist & the Director of Ourspace Early Intervention and Therapy Center .

[Click to watch the video](#)

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UPCOMING EVENTS AT LIFE



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LIFE PRESENTS 4 ZONES FOR THE PLAYDATE WHICH WILL MAKE PLAY FUN AND EXCITING



As an extension to the Power of Play, a 2 day conference of September 2018, A Flagship initiative of LIFE which received huge appreciation and acceptance. LIFE is in the process of identifying schools of the future, that seek to develop best practice guidelines to meet the needs of the 21st century learning and Teaching.

Keeping Play in mind, LIFE is glad to share the event planning with schools for a playdate with the Parents.