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Inspiring Confident Learners & Changemakers

100 LANGUAGES OF FREEDOM

SPARKLING MINDZ GLOBAL – NEWSLETTER



Celebrating Freedom as a community

History in Perspective:



Hon. Minister Krishna Byre Gowda at SM Mission Stalls at Freedom Habba

Every year, Independence Day gives us an opportunity to do more than celebrate. At Sparkling Mindz, we use it as a chance for children to step into the story of India and understand the many journeys, people and ideas that shaped the country we live in today.

Through History in Perspective, children explored India's story from much before 1947, travelling through different periods and looking at history through the eyes of the Sindhu Saraswati River, the ruins of Takshashila and the ports of India.

They explored how people lived, how technology and societies evolved, what power meant, and how communities came together and fragmented.

But the learning did not stop with understanding history.

The celebration itself was owned by the children, end to end. From performing on stage, managing props and costumes, coordinating backstage, supporting one another and making sure the whole experience came together, every child had a role to play.

For us, this is what makes the celebration meaningful. Children were not simply presenting something they had learnt; they were taking ownership of bringing their learning to life. Along the way, they learnt to see history through different perspectives, understand experiences different from their own, collaborate, solve problems and take responsibility for something they had created together.

Independence Day became not just a celebration of our past, but an opportunity to build the skills and mindset children need to shape the future.

In a world where children are growing up amidst uncertainty, conflict, comparison and so much information, what does it really mean to be free?



FREEDOM HAS MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE.
IT CAN SOUND LIKE A QUESTION,
LOOK LIKE A CHOICE,
FEEL LIKE BELONGING,
BECOME AN IDEA,
OR TAKE SHAPE AS AN ACTION.

This month, we explored some of the 100 languages through which children EXPERIENCE and EXPRESS freedom.

FOUNDER'S MESSAGE



Vulnerability as Strength

– Sreeja Iyer

When we think of strength invariably an image of an armour, the ability to hold it together even in the face of blows comes to mind.

But what if that notion of strength as being invulnerable is making us more fragile, more isolated and weaker instead?

What if in order for true strength to emerge we had to learn to be vulnerable? And, what if vulnerability could lead us to acknowledge that we don't know all the answers, and that we are feeling hopelessly lost and alone in this world with its BIG problems.

At our History in Perspective celebrations this Independence Day, we explored the stories from perspectives untold and vulnerably acknowledged the limits of our understanding, creating aspiration and hope for further discovery.

At the Freedom Mela, the Human Library saw people becoming books and vulnerably sharing chapters from their stories. It takes courage to share and just as much to listen with the possibility that what we hear might change us.

At Repair Street, we brought things that were broken and tried to mend them instead of hiding or throwing them away. We chose to bring our tattered stuff back to life instead.

Vulnerability is what brings to light what is uncertain, what is unfinished in each one of us and gives it the space it needs to breathe and take shape in context, making us resilient together. It is the quiet strength that makes belonging, repair and collective strength possible when the armor finally goes down.

100 Ways to Express | ∞ Ways to Explore | 1 Voice that Matters



LIVING HISTORY

When Children Step Into the Story

History can easily become a collection of dates, names and events remembered from a book. We wondered what might happen when children could step inside the story instead. As children explored India's freedom struggle through role-play and performance, they took on different perspectives, experienced the emotions and conflicts within the story, and began to make sense of what freedom meant to the people who lived it. History became something they could feel, question and experience, not something distant on a page.

MORE THAN A GAME

Preschoolers Discover Cricket



This term, our preschoolers stepped onto the field to explore cricket as a new team game. Alongside learning to bat and bowl, children are discovering the joy and challenge of playing together, taking turns, communicating, encouraging teammates and trying again. Every game brings an opportunity to build coordination, decision-making and collaboration. Because there is always more to a game than the final score.

STORIES THAT BRING US TOGETHER

Celebrating Freedom Through Stories, Games & Community



Our Freedom Mela brought the community together through stories, puppet shows, games, creativity and culture. Books like Rani's Moustache, Go Go Flamingo, Imagine That and Leela's Light invited children to wonder, laugh and imagine. Together, these experiences created a celebration of learning, creativity and belonging, a space to wonder, create, participate and be together.

EMPATHY IN EVERYDAY PLAY

When Children Make Space for One Another



A scarf became a train, and when a friend wanted to board, the train stopped to make space. A child came down from a tree to teach a friend how to climb. A two year old comforted an older child and promised to speak to the friend who had hurt him. These little moments remind us that empathy grows through relationships, trust, and everyday experiences of caring for one another.

FREEDOM TO BE ME

Exploring Identity, Ideas & Belonging

What does freedom look like for a preschooler? For our children, it meant saying "No" when something didn't feel right, sharing different ideas,



accepting different feelings, and discovering what makes each of us unique. Through stories, conversations and explorations, children began to see that I can be myself, while making space for you to be yourself too.

NATURE'S LITTLE TREASURES

An Invitation to Play in Nature

"Look what I found!" became the beginning of a nature treasure hunt. Through an Invitation to Play, children were offered an open space to explore, collect and represent what caught their attention. Tiny leaves, flowers, snails and trails of ants became treasures worth looking at closely. "Why is this leaf two colours?" one wondered, while another watched hundreds of ants moving together. Through painting, children revisited what they had noticed and wondered about. When the environment invites children to look closely, even the smallest discovery can become a big question.

WHEN WRITING HAS SOMETHING TO SAY

Joeys Discover Purpose in Writing

For our Joeys, writing is becoming more than a skill to practise. Children are learning to annotate their creations, adding words and labels to tell others what they have made and what their ideas mean. A drawing or construction becomes an invitation to communicate. When children have something meaningful to say, writing finds a purpose, and their ideas find another language.





Missions at SM

TRUI (Tinker, 4Rs, Upcycle, Innovate)
Building a community of aware citizens to create a sustainable world

SMP (Sparkling Mindz' Plates)
Empowering communities to build a healthy lifestyle

MCV (Mission Child Vulnerability)
Creating safe spaces through empathy and courage

CSP (Communities, Stories & Practices)
Building empowering communities through belonging

Freedom Mela

A community celebration of freedom through learning, culture, sustainability, creativity, and local enterprise.

100 languages of FREEDOM

What does celebrating freedom look like when the world around us is filled with uncertainty and despair?
This year, we explored that question by bringing our community together for a Freedom Mela, a space to pause, celebrate, and create.



We wondered: If freedom had 100 languages, what would they be?

Perhaps it could be found in a story that makes us see the world differently. In food that carries the memory of a place. In a game played together. In a book that opens up a new possibility. In repairing something instead of throwing it away. In choosing sustainable ways of living. In making, sharing, questioning and simply having the freedom to be curious.

Across the Mela, children and the community explored these many languages through stories, food, books, games, repair, sustainability, creativity and shared experiences.

It was not just an event to celebrate freedom, but an invitation to experience what freedom can create, connection, choice, imagination, care and community.

Because sometimes, celebrating freedom is also about creating the kind of world we want to be free to live in.







Freedom Habba:

Celebrating Freedom as a citizen Belonging to the city we call home

Freedom Habba is the Karnataka government's Independence Day celebration held at Vidhana Soudha on 15th August, moving beyond the traditional flag-hoisting ceremony to bring music, culture, history, food and family activities to the city. Held under the theme "Namma Ooru, Nimma Ooru, Ellara Bengaluru" (Our City, Your City, Everyone's Bengaluru), the day opened up rare public access inside the legislature building and assembly hall, alongside a parade, cultural performances, guided tours and community stalls - freedom celebrated in public, together, as one city.

This Independence Day, our children stepped outside the school gates and into this citywide celebration not as visitors, but as key stakeholders.

They were selected as the only student team to conduct guided walks at the state legislative building Vidhana Soudha, helping people discover the stories and significance behind Karnataka's seat of government. They also carried their Changemaker Missions into the heart of the city through mission stalls, engaging with people over causes close to their hearts. And through a dance drama performance on lake awareness, they gave voice to Bengaluru's lakes and ecosystems ,a reminder of what makes this city's identity worth protecting.

For our children, this was more than an Independence Day event. It was a chance to truly belong to their city , to contribute to it, and to see themselves as active citizens shaping its future.

Because being part of a community isn't just about where you live. It's about knowing its stories, caring about its challenges, and finding ways to contribute to its future.













UPCOMING events

September 2026

- **05.** RAISING FUTURE READY CHILDREN – Webinar. 10 am
- **12.** UNDERSTANDING YODAs
- **19.** STORY CIRCLE - 03.00 pm OPEN MIC - 4.30 pm
- **26.** APARTMENT OUTREACH



I would have never thought that teaching and facilitation are two different things. Sparkling Mindz taught me to question all that I've learned, break years of conditioning, and helped me find the joy in relearning.It has taught me to choose to heal and spread that healing beyond myself.

MAANASA M.
Facilitator and Mentor, Sparkling Mindz Global



I came to Sparkling Mindz carrying many limiting beliefs about myself. I thought I wasn't an academic person, and I definitely wasn't someone who could speak in public. But those were just two of the many stories I slowly unlearned. Today, I see myself very differently because of the belief, support, and opportunities my mentors and facilitators gave me.

MAXIMUS MERIDIUS,
Student



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