





For children stepping into Grade 1 fresh from kindergarten, the transition is a bia one. From a fluid space of kindergarten, children enter a classic classroom set up with their own desks and chairs, a blackboard and their own books. We go through this transition gently, giving each of them the time and space to truly step into this space where the students' foundation for literacy and numeracy is strengthened. And we do this through the world of fairy tales - where a dreamy state slowly comes into a much earthier, real state.

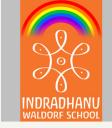
# Every activity is designed to spark imagination and interest.



We encourage our first graders to think in pictures and stories, so letters and numbers often emerge from a teacher's intricate drawings on the blackboard. In this way, children experience abstract concepts are living elements, and not as dead facts to be memorised from a textbook.

Our first graders spend a lot of time writing and forming letter shapes while practicing the associated sounds — the basis for reading – while in math, we introduce the four arithmetic processes — addition, subtraction, multiplication and division — most often through games.

First graders also engage with the natural environment through gardening and nature walks, where the seeds of science and social studies are sown, along with music, beeswax modelling, handwork (knitting needles are introduced) drawing and painting. First grade is also filled with folk tales and nature stories, as well as circle games, movement and mental math practice.

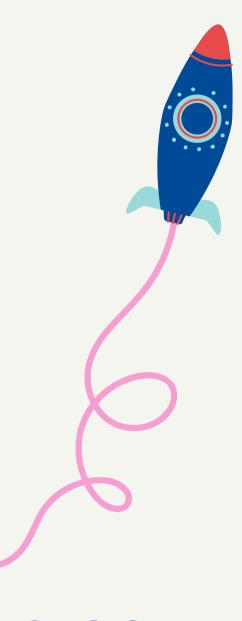


This is an important time as students adapt to the structure of an academic curriculum and develop self-discipline, while channeling curiosity and creativity in new ways.

# **SCHEDULE**

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am to 2:00 pm Snack provided in school





Grade 2





In the second arade, students continue to focus on reading and writing. As their work gains in complexity, so too the stories that fill the second grade classroom. Legends, fables and multicultural folklore illustrate examples of moral conduct and parallel the more sophisticated social relationships that second graders form. They are encouraged to practice self-control, work in groups, and learn to resolve interpersonal conflicts on their own. The stories also mirror the shifting dualities of their personalities as they slowly begin to gain awareness about the individual - the self - and the community - the other.

From we are all one in kindergarten, first and second graders begin to see themselves as separate, as the parts that make up the whole.

Using living pictures through imagination to learn concepts is continued, with children in grade 2 now listening (dictation), copy writing and reading out loud. This is also when the sound of the word is given precedence with phonograms and speech exercises. Much like grade 1, nature stories are also an important part of the second grade curriculum, and a foundation for science lessons and nature observations in and around our campus.

In math lesson blocks, we work with number patterns, forms and place values, while strengthening multiplication. And, as always, art and movement are part of each learning opportunity. For example, multiplication tables are taught not with repetitive worksheets, but through active, rhythmic games to facilitate memorization and to help develop physical coordination and spatial awareness.





Handwork becomes more complex as they begin to work on specific craft projects, and in music, they continue the recorder, basics of which begin in grade 1. Painting and drawing, too, are integral to learning.

# **SCHEDULE**

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am to 2:00 pm Snack provided in school





**Grade 3** 





Third grade, when children turn/are nine years old, is a special year, as it signals the beginning of another layer of transition. The gradual separation of the self that begins gently in grade one, is more pronounced in grade three. Selfawareness increases, as does the confusion and pain that it brings, usually manifested in behaviour fear of the dark, feeling unloved, sudden outbursts are all common at this stage. The Waldorf curriculum, therefore, meets the third graders with a lot more practical work - through the cultivation of food, through construction/building shelter, and the manufacture of garments.

Third graders actively work out in the world to help reorient themselves with their inner physiological changes.

The stories too reflect this change as the curriculum goes deep into creation stories – the story of creation from the Old Testament and from Indian epics and mythological stories, and from other cultures, third graders experience the order of civilisation amidst the disorder of difference.

Third graders deepen their literacy skills and delve more deeply into the world of writing. Now is the time for a more intense focus on spelling, composition, grammar, punctuation and parts of speech. Cursive writing is also introduced this year. In math lesson blocks, we progress to multiplication of higher numbers and other more complex processes within the four operations, along with introduction to time, distance, money, weights and measures.



Third graders actively work out in the world, in nature through robust gardening and actual construction work, to help reorient themselves with their inner physiological changes. In the completion of tasks and small accomplishments, they find a mastery of self.

# **SCHEDULE**

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am to 2:30 pm Snack provided in school





**Grade 4** 



The feeling of separation intensifies and bursts through in grade 4, ably met by the dynamic Norse mythology in the curriculum, and the grounding of the Geography block and the Man and Animal block. It is almost like they are standing at the point of crossing over, which is reflected in all aspects of the curriculum.

As always, it begins with the self and then ripples out into the world. In geography, children begin by mapping their classroom, widening out into the street, the city, state, country and universe. Local geography is also focussed on with field trips to understand local history and culture and the intersection of both with the map of the land.

Through the Man and Animal block, this sense of separateness is further enhanced, with a deep sense of reverence for the 'other' and how every part of the community, of nature, is connected. While in handwork, they begin the cross-stitch and work with the crochet needle, while form drawings become more intricate in their patterns.

It is however the rich world of Norse mythology that truly becomes the centrepiece of the grade 4 curriculum, giving children grandiose characters – gods, humans and giants inhabiting the same world, each carrying their own sense of frailties. The feeling of separation also means leaving the black-and-white world of fairy tales behind and entering a more ambiguous world, imbibing the tenets of morality and ethics organically, and where worlds are destroyed and created.

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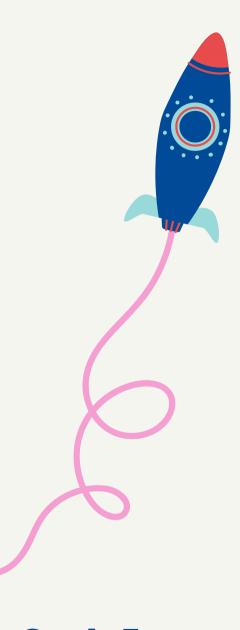


In match, fractions and decimals are introduced, while in language, the syntax and structure of language and grammar are introduced. Students also begin learning a string instrument, and begin to sing in harmony, with different parts added to the song.

#### **SCHEDULE**

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am to 3:00 pm Snack provided in school







Grade 5 is often called the year of 'balance and harmony', and by that what we mostly mean is that the child is now aware of themselves as individuals. They are poised and ready to see the world outside of themselves, while also being able to hold the changes in their inner journeys. The Waldorf curriculum now rises to meet this change through history and ancient civilisations and the world of botany.

The study of ancient civilisations -India, Persia, Mesopotamia, Egypt and ending with Greece - is a deep dive into the history of humankind, allowing the child to truly appreciate the length and breadth of belonging, and the many stages of cultural evolution. Through more creation stories and mythologies, she understands the impulse of transformation, along with the growth of language, adaptability, mathematics, agriculture, medicine and the legacy of humankind. Ending in Greece and the Greek Olympics, that celebrated human ability and beauty, a culmination of balance and harmony. Fifth graders often compete with other fifth graders in an exciting recreation of the games, in a nonthreatening, welcoming environment

They also continue their study of geography, focussing on India deeply this year, learning various geographic terms pertaining to the region. And enter the subject of botany with plant study, a literal reflection of observing the outside world. The wonders and symmetry of plants, and their eternal balance of roots, light, earth and sun give children the opportunity to delve into the diversity of life, through outdoor trips, seasonal changes, and precise drawings. In math, decimals are introduced along with while numbers, prime numbers and mixed numbers, while in language the various parts of speech and letter writing is introduced.

They are poised and ready to see the world outside of themselves, while also being able to hold the changes in their inner journeys.



# **SCHEDULE**

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Snack provided in school











A lot is happening with a sixthgrader as they come more into their physical bodies, conscious of the changes that are stirring as they get ready for puberty. Their feet are firmer on the ground, and the Waldorf curriculum meets them by taking them deep into the physical body of the earth with Geology, and high up to the skies, with Astronomy.

From the plant kingdom in the previous year, sixth-graders enter the mineral kingdom, and go into the depths of the earth (think Jules Verne's 'Journey to the Centre of the Earth'). This is beautifully juxtaposed with the physicality of space, as they journey into the stars, and look at earth's relationship with other planets and bodies of the solar system.

In many ways, Grade 6 is a deepening of the world experience. This is also the year Physics is introduced, where concepts of Optics, Acoustics, Thermodynamics, Magnetism and Electricity are studied, mostly through experimentation and observation, in preparation for the theories that will be further explored in higher grades. In math, Geometry begins and children start to work with the various tools of Geometry, while with language, they become a lot more independent as the focus shifts to developing techniques for self-expression.

From ancient civilisations, sixthgraders study Medieval and Roman history, with Indian parallels, such as the Mauryan dynasty and the Gupta dynasty. Rome is especially significant at this age, as Romans had absolute mastery over their physical world with determined conquests and able prowess, both of which appeal to the sixth-grader. Rome also serves as a sobering reminder for the path of excess and destruction, but with hope for what is to come - mirroring the sixthgrader's own leaving behind of childhood and entering young adulthood.

In many ways, Grade 6 is a deepening of the world experience, where children not only begin to appreciate their place in the world, but also begin to see how the function of space is closely related to the function of their bodies.

## **SCHEDULE**

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Snack provided in school







In a Waldorf curriculum, this is technically the end of the road for children before they get ready to enter the beginnings of high school. Grade 1 to 7 in the curriculum is designed in a way where we hold the layered physiological development of the child at the centre, and bring the kind of learning that takes into account all of the changes they are going through – physically, mentally, intellectually and emotionally.

Seventh-graders now enter the space of exploration and questions, as they go deeper into selfdiscovery, and deep sense of wonder at the world. The curriculum meets this need bu studying explorers, reformers, activists, biographers and the wonderful age of beauty and discovery, the Renaissance. The spirit of being your own person is perfectly reflected in the curriculum, where individuals rise against the odds to effect change. And how awe and wonder often emerges when boundaries are clear. Now more than ever they need steadfast and authentic authority in adults, to be able to push and explore their own boundaries freely.

Apart from continuing the journey with Physics, Geometry and Astronomy, Chemistry is brought into the mix with Combustion, Crystallisation, Acids, Bases and Salts. Combustion too is about digesting substances and transforming, similar to what the seventh-grader experiences with the outer world.

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Seventh grade is also when the Creative Writing Block is introduced with the theme of 'wish, wonder and surprise', to further aid the process of self-expression, and deepen the magic of the physical world in all of its splendour.

## **SCHEDULE**

Mondays to Fridays 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Snack provided in school

