



12th November, 2019 - Guwahati International Storytelling Festival at Royal Global School

Wild Strawberry in association with Arts4Change presented the 'Guwahati International Storytelling Festival' - Unlimited fun and learning, on the 11th and 12th of November at Royal Global School. Five international storytellers exhibited their talent and left the children and teachers awestruck by their lucid and expressive style of storytelling. Roger Jenkins and Jumaini Ariff from Singapore, Rona Mentari from Indonesia, Priyanka Chatterjee from India and Giovanna Conforto from Italy were the star storytellers.

On the 11th of November, the eminent storytellers held sessions with the students from Grades 1 to 11 throughout the whole day and narrated age appropriate stories to them which completely kept them engrossed and gave wings to their imagination. The children could be seen being taken on an emotional journey by the storytellers whereby they emoted with the mood of the story.

On the second day, the 12th of November, three workshops on story telling were conducted by the international story tellers. Teachers were simulated about the use of storytelling in different concepts of English, Science, Mathematics and other languages. They were taught ways of how to involve students in various classroom activities to get their maximum participation. Different ways of teaching topics through stories were discussed. Apart from these, hands-on activities were conducted for the teachers to enable them to have a better understanding of the concepts. Different teaching devices were demonstrated which would arouse curiosity and interest towards learning the subject matter; especially, to remove the fear from the minds of the learners towards Science and Mathematics. Finally, teaching methods for different levels of learners and disciplined method of interaction were discussed upon. The engaging session was interspersed with short enactments and activities to showcase the power of storytelling in a regular classroom scenario across various subjects. The story tellers conducted the session in a very interactive manner and left the teachers enriched with many new teaching tools which could make classrooms a more conducive learning space. For the Primary teachers, focus was mainly on story telling rather than reading.

The main components of storytelling – plot, setting, characters, problems, resolution, solution were used to weave a strong story. They showed the teachers how to tell stories with music and actions to be more influential in their teaching. The program was curated by Priyanka Chatterjee.