

Namaste,

"Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) is the use of places other than a classroom for teaching and learning. It is about getting children and young people out and about, providing them with challenging, exciting and different experiences to help them learn." Not only are these experiences hands-on, but they are also sensory-rich and relationships rich. The month of November and December had many opportunities for children to learn outside their classrooms like field trips, internships and the MUN conferences.

Field trips for different classes were another experience where we achieve both learning and fun. We urge you to read this page about these in reflections written by our [children](#) and [mentors'](#) of Grade 7 to 10 and some other works by our children is [here...](#)

Internships are one of the effective ways of giving our adolescents experience of the real world. We have been able to revive internships after a gap of three years. Children have had valuable experience in these three days. You will be able to witness it during their presentations which will be held soon.

Other than that, there were workshops (for Grades 3,4,5,6, and preprimary) to familiarise parents with our methods of teaching. Our mentors devoted a lot of time and effort in planning a workshop of this kind, but the response from parents was so low that it demotivated all of us. As aware and conscientious parents, we expect a better turnout in the future.

A parting thought! Thomas Armstrong, a writer and a psychologist, while discussing the adolescent brain (ages 13 -19), recommends that the teaching for our young adolescents 'needs to be more affective (i.e. through media of feelings, emotions, values etc.). It needs to be more engaging in terms of humour, vitality, joy and even negative emotions'. The channelling of negative emotions should be such that they don't come out in dangerous ways outside of school. He also states that teenagers benefit more with their interaction with the real world. For more on this article, please use this link www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/may19/vol76/num08/Honoring-the-Teen-Brain@-A-Conversation-with-Thomas-Armstrong.aspx