

## A REPORT ON PREPS VISIT TO THE POST OFFICE

After the festive celebrations at Santa Maria, it was time for an outdoor visit. On August 18<sup>th</sup>, the preps visited the Post Office at Vasant Kunj in order to learn about the postal services in India.

A few days before the visit, the children had done an activity. They were given self-addressed 'Post cards' on which they made drawings of "My family". The teachers wrote messages on the card which the children wanted to send home. The objective was to give hands on experience about the journey of a letter from post box till their homes.



Before the visit we had a discussion about the post office (post master, post man including their role, duties performed etc). We

started at 9:00 a.m. from school and reached the Post Office in a few minutes. The children were with their respective class teachers assembled outside the Post Office where they saw the Post Box. They all were very curious to see the Post Box and had many queries like "Why there is a lock on the Post Box?"

Each child was made to queue up for their post cards to be stamped on the first floor. Athadeep of Prep C was quick to notice the change in colour of the stamp from last year. He said "Last year when I was in KG,I came here, the stamp was red. This year uncle put black stamp!"



Thereafter, we took them inside the Post Office. The children and teachers were welcomed warmly by the staff. We were lucky to meet Ms. Shikha, an employee whose child is studying in the senior school. She insisted on clicking a picture. Children then met the Post Master and greeted him.



We took a glance at the various counters catering to the people namely selling stamps, envelopes, postcards etc. Children walked around to watch how the post office functions - how the letters are

collected, segregated, stamped and then stored in the pigeon holes for the postman to collect. The children were fortunate to even meet the postman.

The children learnt about other services available at the post office such as speed post, registered post, parcel etc. Then they were taken to the post box to post their cards which they were so eagerly waiting for. Dev Thomas was very quick to observe and said "The post box pin code is written as 110070 and on my post card it is 110029. I have also been to a post office with my papa." Sanvi said "I came here to post a letter to my Nani."



It was altogether a great learning experience especially in this electronic age of e-mail and fax. Visiting the P.O was something out-of-the ordinary for the children although 'post' is a conventional form of communication.

It was an informative and a fun filled visit, which left a lasting impression on their young minds. The children are now eagerly waiting to receive their envelopes (cards) that they had posted themselves. The visit concluded with an illustrative recall.

