

Monthly Newsletter

SANDBOX
EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES
July 2025



Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

Welcome to Sandbox
Academy of Alternative
Learning Newsletter!

We're excited to begin another
joyful month of learning and
growing together! July brings
a brand-new theme – **“Money
Matters.”**

This month, our Sandbox
learners will explore the world
of money in fun and
meaningful ways.

Through playful activities,
stories and art.

Children will learn about coins,
notes, saving, spending, and the
importance of making smart
choices.

This hands-on theme is designed
to help children understand the
value of money, where it comes
from, and how it is used in
everyday life.

We look forward to a month full
of discovery, confidence, and
practical learning!

In this newsletter you can expect:

Highlights

Educational Article

Sandbox Events

Upcoming Events

Economics Highlights

Smart Choices, Wise Spenders

Our young learners explored the basics of economics through engaging stories, games, and real-life scenarios connected to money. The focus was on understanding the value of money and how to make smart choices.

Needs vs. Wants

Children learned to tell the difference between things we must have (needs) and things we like to have (wants).

Through picture sorting and discussions, they practiced identifying daily examples from their own lives.

Smart Choices

Given a limited amount of pretend money, students decided what to buy from a list. This activity helped them realise that money should be spent wisely, as we can't buy everything we want.

Learning to Budget

With ₹100 in hand, children had fun choosing from different items like toys, snacks, and books. They calculated totals and learned how to stay within a budget.

Exploring World Currencies

Learners were introduced to different currencies from around the globe—such as the Dollar, Yen, and Euro—and discovered that each country has its own type of money and symbol.

Fun, practical, and full of thinking, these activities helped children build confidence in handling money smartly and making responsible decisions.

Science Highlights

Exploring Nature Through Coins and Notes

In Science, our young learners explored what money is made of and the materials used in coins, notes, and cards. The topic helped them connect science to the things they see and use every day.

Materials Around Us

Children learned that coins are made from metals like copper, silver, gold, and iron, while notes are made from strong cotton cloth to last longer and avoid tearing.

Properties of Metals

Through stories and discussions, students discovered:

- Gold is shiny but soft
- Silver is bright like moonlight
- Copper is easy to shape
- Iron is strong but can rust when wet

They understood why some metals are good for money and some are not.

What Are Alloys?

Children were introduced to the idea of alloys – when two or more metals are mixed together to make them stronger and better example:

- Gold + Copper = Alloy (stronger for jewellery or coins)
- Iron + Chromium = Stainless Steel (doesn't rust easily)

This helped children understand how science helps in making stronger and longer-lasting money.

Natural and Man-made Materials

Children also explored the difference between:

- Natural materials like cotton, gold, and wood
- Man-made materials like plastic and paper

They talked about how natural things are changed to make useful objects like money, notes, and ATM cards.

This month, Science made our learners more curious and observant, helping them see how everyday things like money are connected to the world of materials and nature.

History Highlights

The Journey of Money

Children went on a fascinating journey through time to explore how money has changed from the past to the present. They discovered that money didn't always look like coins and notes!

Barter System

Learners began by understanding the barter system, where people exchanged goods instead of using money. They enjoyed role-playing by "trading" items like toys or fruits with their friends.

Shells to Coins

Children were amazed to learn that people once used shiny shells as money! Later, kings and emperors made coins from gold, silver, and copper with symbols of gods and rulers.

British Rule and Indian Currency

They learned how, during British rule, coins and notes had the images of kings and queens. After Independence, India started making its own money with national symbols.

Modern Money

Students explored how money evolved into plastic cards, online payments, and even digital currency like Bitcoin — showing how far we've come!

This exciting exploration of money through history helped learners understand how human needs and creativity have shaped the way we earn, save, and spend today.

Math Highlights

Counting with Coins and Notes

Children connected math with real life by exploring how money is used every day. The lessons were filled with fun activities, practical problem-solving, and joyful number learning!

Understanding Denominations

They explored Indian notes and coins, recognized their values, and practiced using different combinations to make specific amounts.

Counting Money

Students added up different coin and note combinations to reach a total. For example: "If I have two ₹10 notes and one ₹5 coin, how much do I have?"

Reading and Making Bills

Learners explored what a bill is, how to read one, and even created their own pretend bills. This helped them practice addition and total cost calculation in a fun, practical way.

Finding Mistakes in Bills

Children played detective to spot errors in simple bills. This activity built their accuracy and confidence in adding and checking money amounts.

Passbook Practice

Children were introduced to the idea of a bank passbook. They tracked how much money they deposited and withdrew, and calculated the balance — building an early understanding of saving and managing money.

Simple Word Problems

They solved real-life word problems like:

"Riya has ₹50. She buys a toy for ₹30. How much money is left?" This strengthened their understanding of subtraction and smart spending.

Through this theme, Math became practical, playful, and purposeful — helping children become more confident in using numbers in real life!

Riya's Birthday Math

Project Highlights

This project titled "**Riya's Birthday**," is a math project focused on teaching children about money and financial values. It follows Riya on her birthday as she counts her savings, receives a gift, and goes shopping.

Key Learning Points

- **Understanding Money:** The project helps children identify different Indian coins (₹1, ₹2, ₹5, ₹10) and notes (₹10, ₹20, ₹50, ₹100, ₹200, ₹500)
- **Counting and Calculation:** Activities include counting Riya's money, which involves a mix of coins and notes, and solving addition and subtraction problems.
- **Financial Values:** The project emphasizes several important values, such as saving money, giving to others, and spending wisely.
- **Interactive Activities:** The project includes activities like coin etching, and creating a personal shopping list with a budget.
- **Big Number Practice:** A section is dedicated to practicing writing numbers in words, such as 735, 1000, and 1635.
- **Final Recognition:** The project concludes with a "Smart Spender Certificate" to acknowledge the child's learning and good choices.

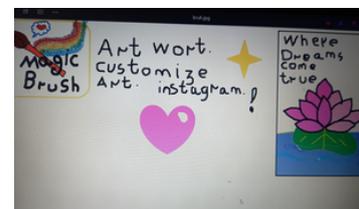
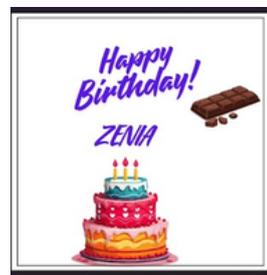
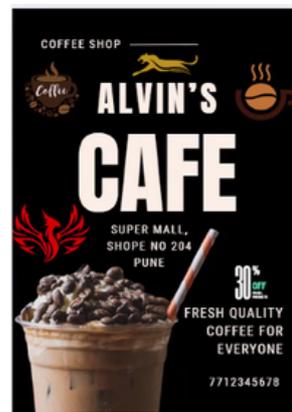


COMPUTER HIGHLIGHTS

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR YOUNG DESIGNERS!

Get ready to be impressed by the digital creativity of our students! They have been busy exploring the world of graphic design using a computer program called Canva. Their projects are fantastic! We have seen some wonderful designs, like a professional-looking poster for "Alvin's Cafe" and a fun advertisement for a special "coriander maggi" from a brand called "MaggiKnot." One student even created a logo for an art business named "Magic Brush." It's also great to see them celebrating each other, as Alvin designed a lovely birthday card especially for Zenia.

We are so proud of how our students are using technology to bring their brilliant ideas to life!



Money: A Mirror of Our Past, A Tool for the Future

When we hold a coin or a note in our hands, we often think about what it can buy. But if we look closer, money tells a story — of who we were, who we are, and where we're headed. It's not just a medium of exchange. It's a reflection of history, trust, culture, and values.

From Exchange to Economy: The Journey of Money

Long before paper notes or digital wallets, people followed the barter system — exchanging goods like grain, cloth, or livestock. But barter had limitations: what if the other person didn't want what you had? To solve this, early civilizations across the world (including India) began using objects of agreed value, such as cowrie shells, beads, and later, metal coins.

These early forms of money laid the foundation for organized trade, travel, and growth.

Money as a Storyteller

Indian coins from ancient times were more than just currency — they were messengers of the ruling dynasty. Kings minted gold and silver coins with symbols of gods, animals, or their own image.

Later, Mughal coins, with their elegant Persian script, reflected a blend of cultures.

During British rule, India saw the rise of uniform currency, with the monarch's image stamped across coins and notes — a silent reminder of foreign power.

Then came Independence, and with it, a new beginning.

The Indian Rupee Finds Its Voice

In 1949, the first independent ₹ note was issued with the Ashoka Pillar, a symbol of national pride. Over the decades, Indian currency has celebrated:

- Mahatma Gandhi, the face of peace
- Our heritage, like the Konark Temple and Rani ki Vav
- Scientific success, including the Mars Orbiter Mission
- India's linguistic and cultural diversity, reflected even in the scripts printed on our notes

Money became a canvas — celebrating progress, remembering the past, and inspiring the future.

Money in the Digital Age

Today, most young learners may see a QR code before they ever hold a cheque. From UPI payments and digital wallets to cryptocurrency, money is evolving faster than ever.

Children today are growing up in a world where financial literacy is as important as reading and writing. As parents and educators, we now have the responsibility to: Teach children the value of earning and saving. Guide them to make smart, ethical choices. Help them understand that money is a resource, not a goal

What Money Really Teaches Us

Whether you're a parent managing a household or a child saving up for your first bicycle, money teaches powerful life lessons:

- Discipline in saving
- Patience in planning
- Kindness in giving
- Wisdom in spending

Final Thought

Money may have changed in form — from shells to digital taps — but its message remains the same: It's a tool. How we use it defines who we are. So next time you open your wallet or hand your child a ₹10 coin, pause. You're not just exchanging currency — you're sharing a story, a value, a piece of history.

Event Highlights

International Tiger Day

To honour the strength, beauty, and importance of tigers, learners celebrated International Tiger Day under the theme:

“Harmonious Coexistence between Humans and Tigers.”

The event aimed to build awareness about tiger conservation through engaging activities across all age groups.

Theme Introduction

The celebration began with a warm introduction to the theme, helping children understand why it's important for humans and tigers to live in balance and respect nature.

Tiger Fun Fact Reveal Game

Learners enjoyed an exciting fact-based game that introduced them to fascinating and little-known facts about tigers. Laughter and learning went hand in hand!

Meet the Tiger Family – Map Game

Children explored the world of tigers through a fun and interactive map game that helped them identify different species of tigers and the countries they live in.

They discovered six types of wild tigers still found in the world:

- Bengal Tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*) – India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh
- Siberian Tiger (*Panthera tigris altaica*) – Russia (cold forests of Siberia)
- Indochinese Tiger (*Panthera tigris corbetti*) – Southeast Asia
- Malayan Tiger (*Panthera tigris jacksoni*) – Malaysia
- South China Tiger (*Panthera tigris amoyensis*) – Critically endangered, possibly extinct in the wild
- Sumatran Tiger (*Panthera tigris sumatrae*) – Found only on the island of Sumatra, Indonesia

This activity connected geography and wildlife conservation in a fun and meaningful way.

Educational Presentation

A colourful and informative presentation taught children about tiger types, their unique features, habitats, and the reasons they are endangered. Conservation messages were made simple and powerful for young minds.

Comic Strip Reading –

Learners participated in a collaborative reading of a meaningful comic strip titled "Tiger in the wood"

The story followed a young girl named Tara, who helped her village understand a tiger's pain rather than fear it. The comic beautifully conveyed the theme of coexistence through empathy, listening, and peaceful solutions.

This activity blended storytelling, environmental awareness, and values, leaving a lasting impression on young minds.

Block-wise Activities

- Block 1 & Block 2 took part in an interactive quiz, testing their knowledge from the presentation and games.
- Block 3 completed a worksheet and watched a real-life case study, encouraging deeper reflection on human impact on wildlife

The celebration successfully blended education, empathy, and excitement, helping children understand the role they can play in protecting wildlife and respecting our planet.



Event Highlights

National Doctor's Day

To honour the real heroes in white coats, learners celebrated National Doctor's Day with warmth, gratitude, and joy.

Why Do We Celebrate Doctor's Day?

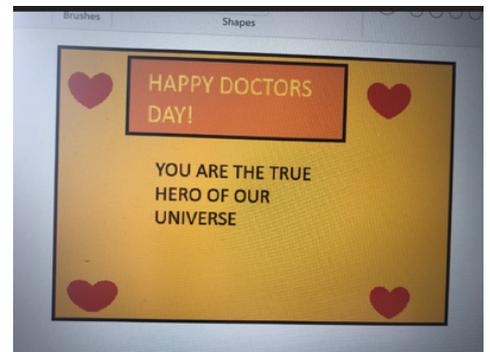
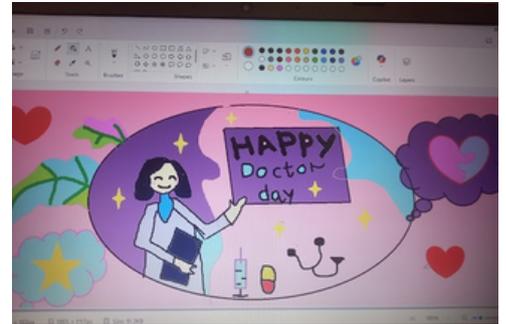
The celebration began with a discussion on the importance of this day — to thank doctors for their dedication, care, and service in keeping people healthy and safe.

Special Guest Visit – Meet the Doctor!

A special guest, **Dr. Orpah Kalel**, was invited to interact with the children. They asked curious and thoughtful questions about the doctor's work, tools, and experiences. The session was engaging and inspiring for everyone.

Thank You Cards

Learners created beautiful handmade cards filled with drawings and kind words to express their appreciation. These were gifted to Dr. Orpah Kalel as a heartfelt gesture. The celebration helped young minds understand the value of empathy, care, and gratitude, while encouraging them to look up to those who serve selflessly



Upcoming Events

- **FRIENDSHIP DAY**
 - **HIROSHIMA DAY**
 - **INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**
 - **NATIONAL SPORTS DAY**
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Block 1 & 2 Covered Syllabus

English:

- Story Writing through the Story Arch
- First Person Narrative of Money
- Poster Making of Personal Business

History:

- Evolution of money through time
- Indian history through the eyes of money

Science:

- Materials used in making money through time
- Introduction to Metals and Alloys

Geography:

- Money of the world
- Introduction to world map

Economics:

- Introduction to Needs & Wants
- Economic Problem of Choice

Banking:

- Introduction to Banking Terms
- Banking Talk Roleplay

Entrepreneurship:

- Book Read: The Toothpaste Millionaire
- Case Study of Real Kid Entrepreneurs

Computer: Block-1

Topic: Computer System

- Computer Hardware
- Input Devices
- Processing Device- CPU
- Output Devices
- Storage Devices
- System Software
- application Software

Computer: Block-2

Operating System

- What is an operating system?
- How to work on operating system
- Different parts of desktop
- To create a file, folder and sub folder

Math:

- Understanding Denominations
- Creating and Reading Bills
- Finding Errors in Bills
- Understanding Bank Passbook Entries
- Understanding Bank Passbook Entries
- Skip counting 2,5,10
- Addition & Subtraction

हिंदी:

- एक-एक पैसे का हिसाब- शिक्षाप्रद कहानी (रुपये और पैसे की समझ के लिए)
 - सोने का लालच-राजा मिडास की शिक्षाप्रद कहानी – (लालच बुरी बला है)
 - कविता – चार चने
-

Block 3 & 4 Covered Syllabus

English:

NIOS

- Snake Bite
- How The Squirrel Got Its Stripes
- Kondiba – A Hero

IGCSE

- Identifying paragraph topics
- Selecting summary points
- Summary technique
- Summary writing
- Skimming and scanning
- Comparing text styles
- Inference Identifying relevant information
- Paragraphing
- Paraphrasing

Math:

- Surds and Rational numbers

Science:

- Motion and types of Motion

Entrepreneurship

- Definition, Characteristics,
- Entrepreneur vs Businessman
- Types of Entrepreneurships
- Real Life Case Studies

Creative Writing

- Forms of writing
- Topic Based Fiction
- Topical Research
- Fictional Writing
- Chosen Topic – Fantasy and Adventure

हिंदी:

संधि के भेद

स्वर संधि

- दीर्घ संधि
- गुण संधि
- वृद्धि संधि
- यन् संधि
- अयादि संधि

मराठी:

- पाठ: बडबडे कासव – वाचन, समज, संवाद
- प्राण्यांची नावे
- शरीराचे अवयव

Thank you for reading!



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