

15th September, 2015

Eco-Friendly Ganesha by Dr. Kavita Parikh

Dr. Nivedita Ma'am's introduction of Lord Ganesha's appearance as symbolism of wisdom filled children with awe. Dr. Kavita Parikh shared the beginning of Ganesh Chaturthi and how and when it was started. (Celebration of Ganesh Chaturthi was started by Chhatrapati Shivaji as a public event to promote traditions and nationalism, the festival was revitalized by Bal Gangadhar Tilak in the late 19th Century, to take the message of freedom struggle to all Indians.)

She oriented the students to choose the most appropriate eco-sensitive solution as the water pollution is caused by the immersion of Plaster of Paris idols into natural water bodies and chemical paints used on these idols. It is important that we understand the environmental impacts of Ganesh Chaturthi. She asked students to say 'no' to idols made of chemical, Plaster of Paris, and opt for natural, biodegradable material so that after immersions (visarjan) it does not pollute water and surroundings, also to use natural biodegradable colours for making Rangoli such as turmeric, henna, mehendi, rice powder, gulaal. Such colours do not pose a threat to human health and do not affect the environment also.

Children were pleased and delighted with their creation of Ganesh they did not want to part away from their creation!