

**DAV SCHOOLS WESTERN REGION**  
**DISCOVERING THE POWER OF LITERATURE**  
**A REPORT ON LITERARY ODYSSEY**

*“Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become.”*

DAV Schools Western Region organised, “The Literary Odyssey Program” hosted by DAV Public School, Thane on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024. It was nothing short of a literary symphony—a celebration of the written word, the spoken thought, and the boundless imagination of young minds. In the event students from all DAV Schools Western Region, participated for a series of competitions. The event transformed the school into a realm where stories danced, ideas blossomed, and creativity reigned supreme. Designed to nurture a deep appreciation for literature.

The programme commenced with the lamp-lighting ceremony by the distinguished guests, signifying the triumph of wisdom over ignorance. Hon. Mrs. Seema Maindiratta, Asst. Regional Officer - Zone A, Principal DAV International School Kharghar & Hon. Mrs. Simmi Juneja Asst. Regional Officer - Zone C, Principal DAV Public School Thane, welcomed the guests with words that resonated deeply, setting the tone for the day and announced the competition open. The gathering comprised of, Principals of all DAV Schools Western Region, Mrs. Hema Nair Principal DAV International School, Mulund, Mr. Sumantha Ghosh Principal DAV Public School, New Panvel, Mrs. Mukta Baurai Principal DAV Public School, Nerul, Mrs. Suman Pradhan DAV Public School, Airoli, author Mr. Varun Gwalani and Mr. Murali Sundrani, Life and Happiness Coach & President Rotary Club Thane, Skyline .

Hon. Mrs. Seema Maindiratta, Asst. Regional Officer - Zone A delivered an enthralling inaugural address that celebrated the magic of literature and its ability to transform lives. She chaired the discussion with Author Mr. Varun Gwalani. The program’s artistic segment was a feast for the senses. An enchanting dance performance followed by a rendition by the school choir mesmerized the audience.

After the inauguration ceremony the competitions commenced at different venues in the school. The Literary Odyssey was a Symphony of Competitions including Poetry Recitation which was a melodic journey, with verses brimming with passion, imagery, and rhythm that enchanted the audience. Debate Competition wherein fiery exchanges and well-crafted arguments took center stage in a riveting debate on “Survival of the fittest” The students demonstrated remarkable oratory skills, leaving the audience awestruck with their perspectives and poise. “Silent Scene Showdown” showcased a unique competition that breathed life into wordless performances. Participants crafted powerful dialogues that complement and amplified the silent actions, guiding the audience through the unspoken narrative. “Scriptorium”- a haven for creativity, where words became a canvas and ideas took flight. This competition challenged participants to craft compelling narratives,

weaving imagination and skill into every sentence in the form of prose, poetry, and monologue. “Podcast Pitch”- a celebration of innovation and storytelling where participants presented original podcast concepts, with unique themes, captivating formats, and the power of audio to inspire and engage. “Thematic Collage”- a creative competition that blended visual artistry and conceptual depth where participants crafted collages around a central theme, using a variety of materials and techniques to convey a powerful narrative or message.

Acclaimed authors and literary connoisseurs like Mr. Murali Sundrani, Ms. Deepshobha, Mrs Sudha Rao, Mrs Savitri Chandrashekharan, Mrs Amrita Potdar judged the creative and critical thinking of the participants. Students explored the nuances of debate, poetry, and prose, learning to wield their pens with purpose and passion.

Students breathed life into iconic literary works through theatrical performances, while melodious songs and graceful dances celebrated the harmony between literature and art. The event witnessed an enthusiastic participation of over 80 students, each contributing their unique spark to the program’s success. Outstanding performances were recognized and rewarded, creating moments of pride and joy for the young achievers.

The Literary Odyssey Program was a resounding success, an ode to the eternal allure of literature and its profound ability to inspire. It was not just an event—it was an experience, a journey into the world of imagination and intellect. As the day concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks, the applause lingered, a testament to the program’s impact and the promise of brighter literary futures.



