



Birthday Celebrations

Topic	Value	Name of the activity	Type of illustration
Celebration of Students Birthday at School	Pride in Indian culture	Birthday Celebration	Whole School Approach

Objectives:

- To make each child feel the importance of their presence
- To cultivate the culture of celebrating birthday in Bharateeya sampradaya
- To celebrate and enjoy in the school

Materials required:

1. Lamp to light [Batti, Oil, Match box]
2. Flowers to offer to the lamp/Photo of any God
3. Keep the list of all students' names for respective dates
4. Script of the Sanskrit song for the birthday
5. Script for the Ashirvachana by the teachers
6. Birthday board in each class
7. Information note to Parents about this activity to be used during PTM
8. Well-designed format for Sankalpa

Procedure for preparation:

1. School Principal shall take approval from the management to conduct students' birthdays in the school and get this process approved by the committee as applicable.
2. Set the start date as the re-opening day (May month) of the school and the process ends for the particular year on the last working day for the academic year (Mar/April).
3. Can celebrate birthday for all the students who had their date of birth during vacation, so that they do not feel left out.

4. Principal shall assign a School Level Co-ordinator for celebrating Students birthdays at their respective school.
5. Principal shall assign the responsibility to Class Teachers to co-ordinate with this School Level Coordinator in conducting this session.
6. This celebration shall be along with the School Assembly/ respective Group Assembly as applicable.
7. Keep a list of students and their date of birth class-wise/Section-wise and prepare a consolidated list of students for each day of the month. It is ideal to follow the Hindu calendar and celebrate as per their Janma nakshatra, however, the school can take up decision based on their convenience.
8. Instruct the children to get up with good spirit, take bath and wear clean/new ethnic dress, do Namaskarams to their parents and other elders at home take their Ashirwada before coming to school.
9. For children of class 6 and above, well in advance guide the students to prepare sankalpas that they can take on their birthday.
10. Class teachers can organize/coordinate in planting a sapling in the school park or in nearby suitable place.
11. School coordinator can organize a visit of group of children with a teacher guide to an orphanage/ old age home/ hospital and children can distribute fruits/cloths/toys/ any other as appropriate on case to case basis.
12. Children can be informed well in advance about such visits. Information about such activities can be shared with the parents during PTMs.
13. Teacher shall remind and guide students to keep track of the progress of their sankalpas regularly.

Celebration:

1. All the children celebrating their birthday will be seated on the stage/dais or in a central place convenient for the school.
2. Parents and respective class teachers along with them is optional.
3. Parents of the children can be invited to attend the birthday celebration at school in advance (Optional)
4. Before the school prayer starts in the morning assembly, birthday children will light the diya in front of Goddess Saraswati/Ganapati and Bharata mata and sing Deep prajwalan song. (Appendix - 3)
5. Later, birthday coordinator/teacher will help these children to perform Agnihotra so that it brings clarity, focus and strength to the children.
6. Birthday children will introduce themselves with name, class. Elder children may take some pledge/sankalpa.

7. Mothers of children (if present) along with the teachers will perform Aarti to children by singing "Janmadinamidam" (Sanskrit birthday celebration song) (Appendix - 2). This song has to be learnt by all the students of the school and has to be sung by all while performing the aarti.
8. Birthday children will do Namaskars to their parents and teachers and take their blessings.
9. Once children go to their class, they can distribute some homemade sweets with their classmates and teachers. (Optional)
10. Whole year the student can collect an amount given to him/ her by elders on functions, festivals etc. They can plan to donate part of it to needy. At the end of every year every class can visit orphanages, old age homes, hospitals to donate this too. Or an NGO can visit school itself and can collect it from them.
11. The student can submit a thanking note for loved ones/parents (poem/collage/art) and display on the birthday board.

Appendix – 1

Significance of celebrating the birthday:

दुर्लभं त्रयमेवैतत् दैवानुग्रहहेतुकम् ।
मनुष्यत्वं मुमुक्षुत्वं महापुरुषसंश्रयः ॥

- विवेकचूडामणिः – श्लो. ३ ॥

Durlabham trayamēvaitat daivānugrahaḥētukam ।
Manuṣyatvaṁ mumukṣutvaṁ mahāpuruṣasaṁśrayaḥ ॥

As per the World Population clock statistics released, that in India, every two seconds, a baby's birth has been recorded. It looks like we are one among plenty. But our scriptures reveal that, among all the creatures, taking the human form is most rare indeed this is because of the grace of the God almighty. Subsequently, taking a birth of human form carries the most significant thing among all creatures in the world.

The birthday is a significant day for all, which is why people of all age groups are celebrating with joyfulness. For any person's celebration of a birthday holds a greater significance for his/her life.

This birthday celebration as per the Janma tithi embraces more divinity of one's life as per the Sanatana Dharma of this land. Because of both the Sun and the Moon involved, one's Janma tithi holds a high spiritual significance.

Appendix – 2

Sanskrit song for birthday:

जन्मदिनमिदम् अयि प्रियसखे
शं तनोतु ते सर्वदा मुदम् ।
प्रार्थयामहे भव शतायुषी
ईश्वरः सदा त्वां च रक्षतु ॥
पुण्यकर्मणा कीर्तिमर्जय
जीवनं तव भवतु सार्थकम्
जीवनं तव भवतु सार्थकम् ॥

ओं स्वस्तिरस्तु ! ते कुशलमस्तु ।
चिरायुरस्तु । विद्या-विवेक-कृतिकौशल्यसिद्धिरस्तु ।
ऐश्वर्यमस्तु । बलमस्तु । राष्ट्रभक्तिस्सदास्तु ।
वंशस्तथैव सुदीर्घोऽस्तु ॥

ಜನ್ಮದಿನಮಿದಂ ಅಯಿ ಪ್ರಿಯಸಖೇ
ಶಂ ತನೋತು ತೇ ಸರ್ವದಾ ಮುದಮ್ ।
ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಯಾಮಹೇ ಭವ ಶತಾಯುಷೀ
ಈಶ್ವರಃ ಸದಾ ತ್ವಾಂ ಚ ರಕ್ಷತು ॥
ಪುಣ್ಯಕರ್ಮಣಾ ಕೀರ್ತಿಮರ್ಜಯ
ಜೀವನಂ ತವ ಭವತು ಸಾರ್ಥಕಮ್
ಜೀವನಂ ತವ ಭವತು ಸಾರ್ಥಕಮ್ ॥

ಓಂ ಸ್ವಸ್ತಿರಸ್ತು ! ತೇ ಕುಶಲಮಸ್ತು ।
ಚಿರಾಯುರಸ್ತು । ವಿದ್ಯಾ-ವಿವೇಕ-ಕೃತಿಕೌಶಲ್ಯಸಿದ್ಧಿರಸ್ತು ।
ಐಶ್ವರ್ಯಮಸ್ತು । ಬಲಮಸ್ತು । ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಭಕ್ತಿಸ್ಸದಾಸ್ತು ।

ವಂಶಸ್ತಥೈವ ಸುದೀರ್ಘೋಽಸ್ತು ||

Janmadinamidam ayi priyasakhē
Śam tanōtu tē sarvadā mudam ।
Prārthayāmahē bhava śatāyuṣī
Īśvaraḥ sadā tvām ca rakṣatu ॥
Puṇyakarmaṇā kīrtimarjaya
Jīvanaṁ tava bhavatu sārthakam
Jīvanaṁ tava bhavatu sārthakam ॥

Om svastirastu ! tē kuśalamastu ।
Cirāyurastu । vidyā-vivēka-kṛtikauśalyasiddhirastu ।
Aiśvaryamastu । balamastu । rāṣṭrabhaktissadāstu ।
Vaṁśastathaiva sudīrghō'stu ॥

Meaning:

Dear friend, today is your birthday, may you always have all the best. I pray that you may live a hundred years. May the God protect you always. You earn fame by your meritorious deeds. May your life be meaningful.

May you be good, skillful, healthy, may knowledgeable, wisdom and creative skills be prepared for you. May your wealth arise, may strength be gained, may patriotism be ever present, may your lineage let it be long.

Appendix – 3

Deepa-prajwalana Shlokas:

दीपज्योतिः परंज्योतिः दीपज्योतिर्जनार्दनः ।
दीपो हरतु मे पापं दीपज्योतिर्नमोऽस्तु ते ॥
शुभं करोतु कल्याणम् आरोग्यं सुखसम्पदः ।
द्वेषबुद्धिविनाशाय आत्मज्योतिर्नमोऽस्तु ते ॥
आत्मज्योतिप्रदीप्त्याय ब्रह्मज्योतिर्नमोऽस्तु ते ।
ब्रह्मज्योतिप्रदीप्त्याय गुरुर्ज्योतिर्नमोऽस्तु ते ॥

ದೀಪಜ್ಯೋತಿಃ ಪರಂಜ್ಯೋತಿಃ ದೀಪಜ್ಯೋತಿರ್ಜನಾರ್ದನಃ |
ದೀಪೋ ಹರತು ಮೇ ಪಾಪಂ ದೀಪಜ್ಯೋತಿರ್ನಮೋಽಸ್ತು ತೇ ||
ಶುಭಂ ಕರೋತು ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಂ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಂ ಸುಖಸಂಪದಃ |
ದ್ವೇಷಬುದ್ಧಿವಿನಾಶಾಯ ಆತ್ಮಜ್ಯೋತಿರ್ನಮೋಽಸ್ತು ತೇ ||
ಆತ್ಮಜ್ಯೋತಿ ಪ್ರದೀಪ್ತಾಯ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಜ್ಯೋತಿರ್ನಮೋಽಸ್ತು ತೇ |
ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಜ್ಯೋತಿ ಪ್ರದೀಪ್ತಾಯ ಗುರುಜ್ಯೋತಿ ನಮೋಽಸ್ತು ತೇ ||

Dīpajyōtiḥ paramjyōtiḥ dīpajyōtirjanārdanaḥ ।
Dīpō haratu mē pāpaṁ dīpajyōtirnamō'stu tē ॥
Śubhaṁ karōtu kalyāṇam ārōgyaṁ sukhasampadaḥ ।
Dvēṣabuddhivināśāya ātmajyōtirnamō'stu tē ॥
Ātmajyōtipradīptāya brahmajyōtirnamō'stu tē ।

Brahmajyōtipradīptāya gururjyōtinamō'stu tē ॥

Meaning:

Deepa-Jyothi is the supreme Brahman, Deepa-Jyothi is Janardana. May the divine lamp eradicate my sins. Salutations to the divine lamp of the evening.

The grantor of auspices, welfare, health, wealth and prosperity, salutation to you oh! flame of the lamp, for the destruction of the thought of enmity.

Salutations to Brahma Jyoti for the illumination of self-light and salutations to Guru Jyoti for meeting with Brahma Jyoti.

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