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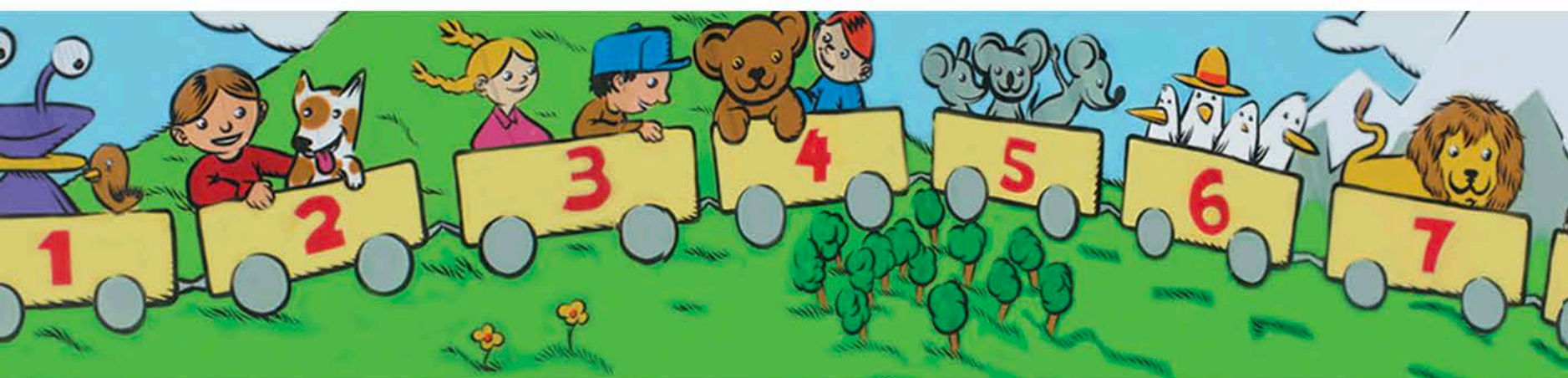


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Pre-Kindergarten:
2½ to 4 year olds

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MELINA'S KINDERGARTEN

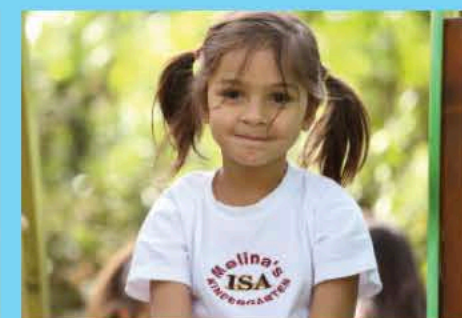
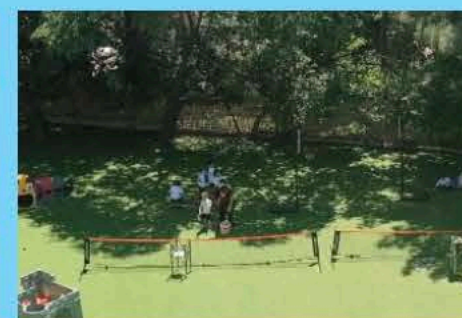
Melina's Kindergarten, of International School of Athens, provides an international education for students aged 2½ through 6 in a secure and nurturing English-language environment. Two gracious villas located in the Kifissia area with attractive gardens, serving as playgrounds, house our young students.

At Melina's Kindergarten, we recognize the fact that all students differ in their needs and abilities. Therefore, we are committed to helping each child discover their interests and attributes at their own developmental pace, enabling them to become confident, independent, well-balanced life-long learners.

The curriculum is delivered through an innovative combination of classroom and activity-led inquiry-based learning as well as excursions and brief presentations by guest speakers on a wide range of topics. In Kindergarten, the students are introduced to the **IB Primary Years Program (PYP)**. Emphasis is also placed on Arts & Crafts, Physical Education, Gardening Activities in Melina's Garden Lab, ORFF System, Drama and ICT skills. The pleasure and importance of reading is supported by a library containing a comprehensive selection of age-appropriate books.



WE PROVIDE AN
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
THROUGH THE IB PRIMARY
YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP).



Internationalism is an important feature of Melina's Kindergarten. Greek for native speakers and Greek for foreigners is included in the Pre – Kindergarten and Kindergarten curriculum. The Greek lessons are offered on a daily basis. Early exposure to multiple languages and diverse cultures fosters open-mindedness, advanced cognitive skills and a better understanding of the world, laying the groundwork for a global future.



DEPENDING ON THE GRADE WE OFFER SMALL CLASSES OF 10 TO 15 STUDENTS, WITH A HOMEROOM TEACHER AND AN ASSISTANT.

MISSION STATEMENT

Nursery, Junior Pre - Kindergarten: 2 ½ to 4 year olds

In Nursery & Junior Pre-Kindergarten, our primary aim is to provide a safe and secure environment, where every child may acquire the foundations for their holistic, personal and emotional development. We strive to open each child's mind for future learning.

Our aim is to:

- ⦿ **Encourage** curiosity, interest and enthusiasm in discovering their environment and the world around them
- ⦿ **Introduce** simple problem solving
- ⦿ **Familiarize** each child with routine, limits and boundaries
- ⦿ **Develop** their English language skills
- ⦿ **Instill** good manners and empathy
- ⦿ **Encourage** them to, and benefit from social interaction
- ⦿ **Promote** independence and self-care
- ⦿ **Stimulate** and develop fine and gross motor skills
- ⦿ **Provide** the introduction to numbers, phonics, simple concepts and themes



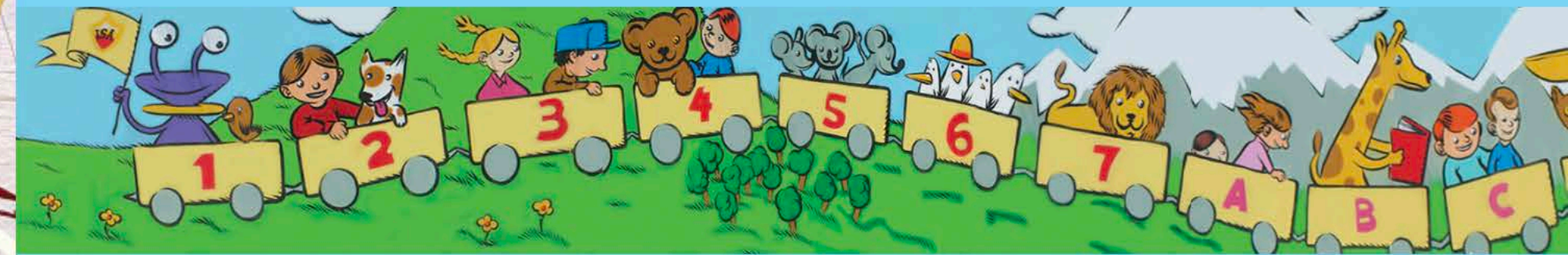
In this way, the children gain valuable life lessons and are prepared for their transition to Kindergarten.



MISSION STATEMENT

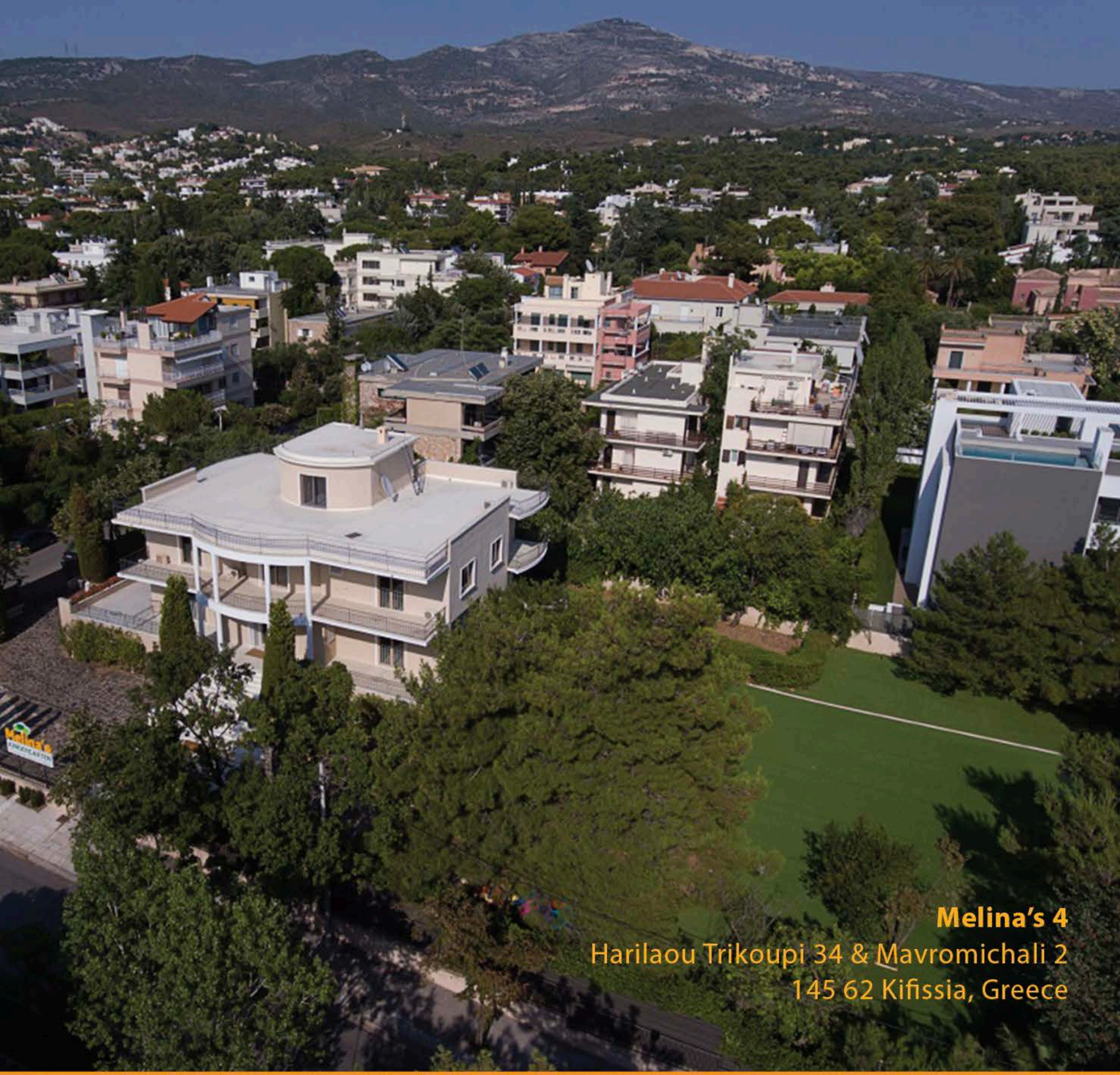
Pre - Kindergarten, Kindergarten: 4 to 6 year olds

In Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten, our primary aim is to provide a safe and secure environment, where every child will develop his or her social, emotional and academic individuality in a structured classroom setting where cultural diversity is respected. Each child is encouraged to achieve his or her personal goals and become an independent, life-long learner.



Our aim is to:

- ⊙ **Offer** constructive, inquiry-based activities
- ⊙ **Focus** on each child's unique developmental needs and learning style
- ⊙ **Enable** each child to explore, investigate and experiment, think and communicate in a challenging and stimulating environment
- ⊙ **Build** on each child's experiences, ideas, interests and cultural background
- ⊙ **Cater** for each child's emotional, social, intellectual and physical growth
- ⊙ **Enable** each child to grow into a self-confident and well-balanced individual
- ⊙ **Follow** an age-appropriate learning continuum
- ⊙ **Prepare** each child for primary school







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WE ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO DEVELOP A SENSE OF IDENTITY, SELF-ESTEEM AND INDEPENDENCE

CURRICULUM

Curriculum

The curriculum at Melina's Kindergarten is designed to maintain high standards of learning as well as to nurture the children's social and emotional well-being and help them reach their greatest potential in a stimulating and caring environment. The children are encouraged to develop a sense of identity, self-esteem and independence. Through an interdisciplinary curriculum and by using an inquiry-based approach with hands-on activities, the programme creates opportunities for the children to make meaningful connections.

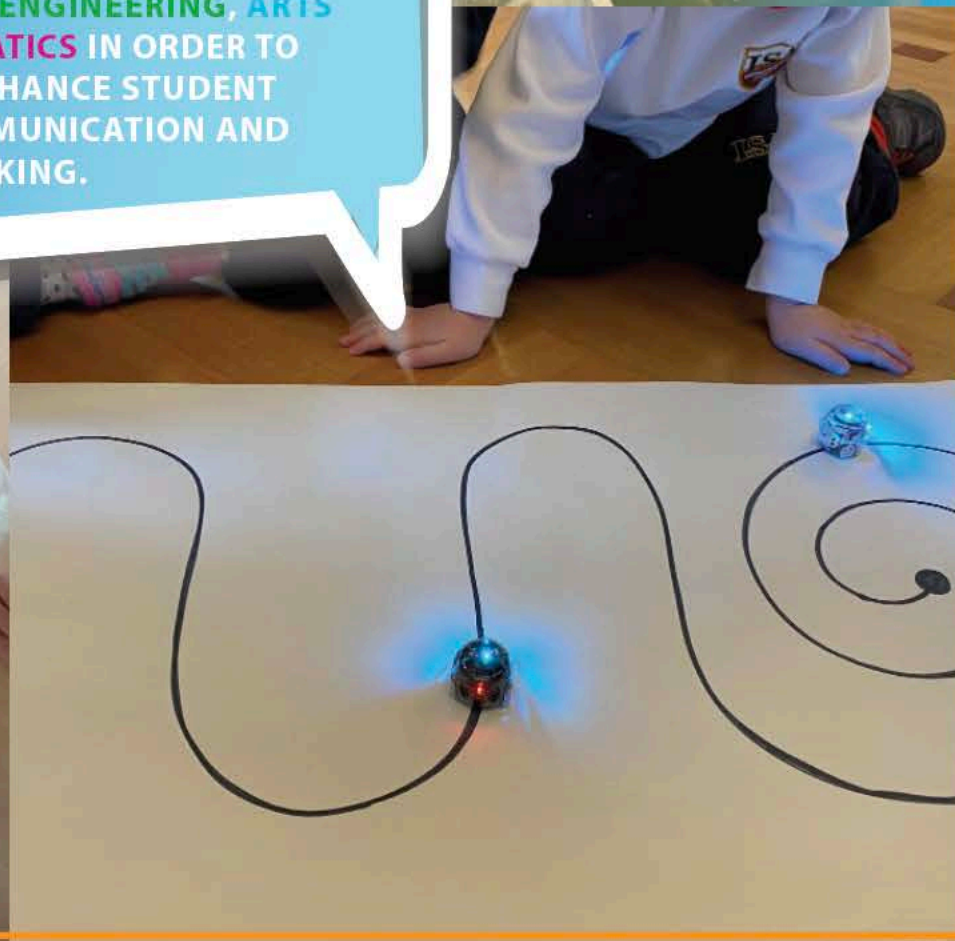
Emphasis is put on the communicative importance of language. Children are taught to respect others and their natural environment and to develop an awareness and appreciation of different cultures. In Kindergarten, the students are introduced to the **IB Primary Years Programme** where learning occurs through six Units of Inquiry. These units integrate subject knowledge across the main curriculum areas of Languages; Mathematics; Social Studies; Science and Technology; The Arts; Personal, Physical and Social Education (PSPE).



The Kindergarten students inquire into a unit from each of these six PYP Transdisciplinary Themes:

- Who we are
- Where we are in place and time
- How we express ourselves
- How the world works
- How we organize ourselves
- Sharing the planet

Melina's Kindergarten promotes cooperation between parents, staff, students and the community.



STEAM EDUCATION IS AN APPROACH TO LEARNING THAT USES **SCIENCE**, **TECHNOLOGY**, **ENGINEERING**, **ARTS** AND **MATHEMATICS** IN ORDER TO GUIDE AND ENHANCE STUDENT INQUIRY, COMMUNICATION AND CRITICAL THINKING.

STEAM PROGRAMME

STEAM Education is an approach to learning that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics in order to guide and enhance student inquiry, communication and critical thinking. STEAM is a process of learning to be curious, explore and investigate.

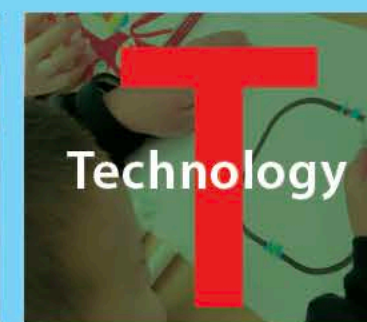
- ⦿ **How can I build a robot?**
- ⦿ **Is there a way to transfer water from one cup to another using a string?**
- ⦿ **Why do we need levers?**

These and many more real-world questions are being answered through the STEAM classes at Melina's Kindergarten. The children have the opportunity to come across real – world problems and find solutions.

STEAM stands for: **Science / Technology / Engineering / Arts / Mathematics**



Science



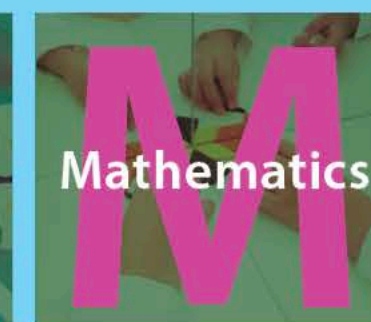
Technology



Engineering



Arts



Mathematics

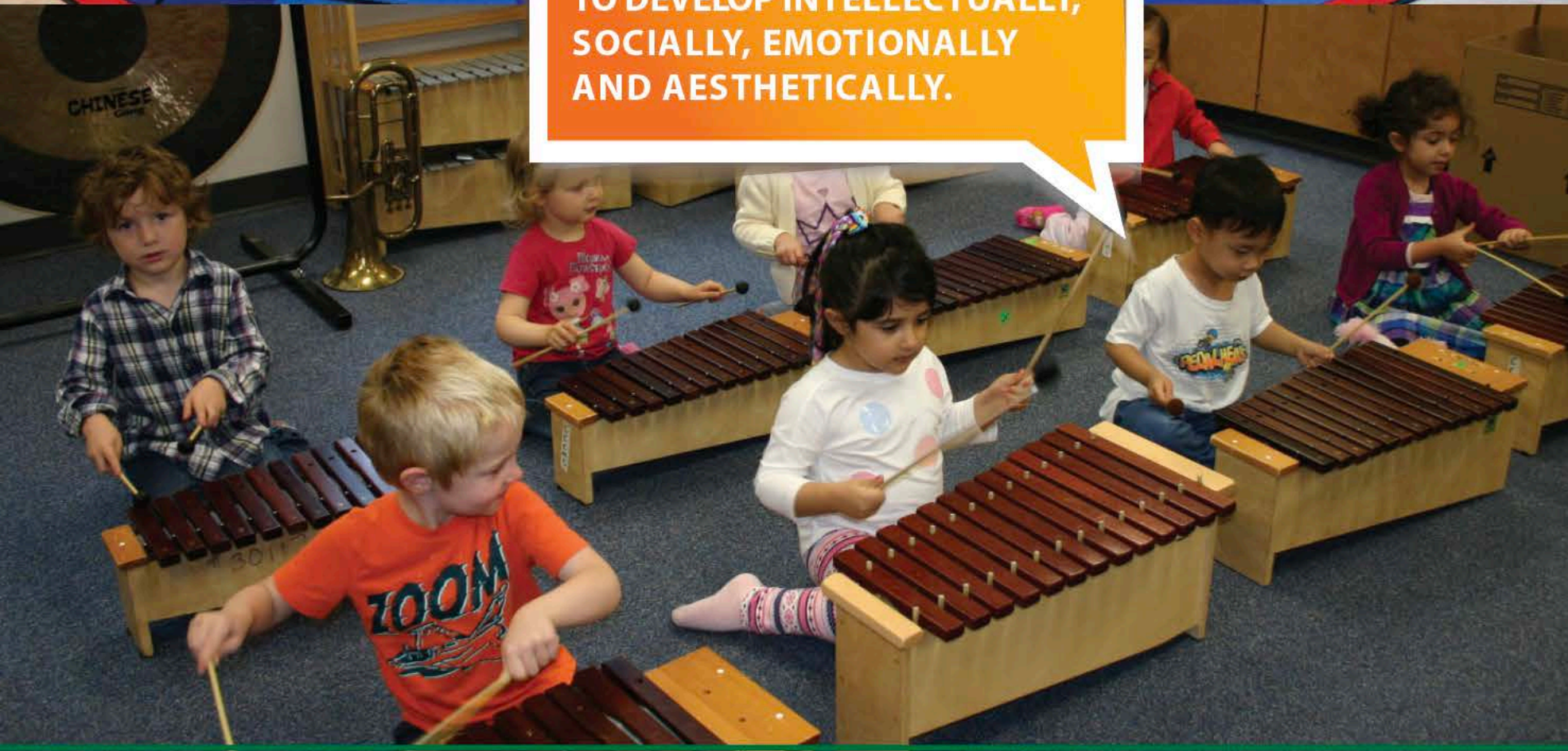
The aim of STEAM is to develop our students' 21st century skills. Some of the most important skills are critical thinking, problem solving, digital literacy, communication, collaboration, handling of failure, leadership skills, imagination and creativity.

Through STEAM Education, the students will develop into thoughtful risk-takers who persist in problem solving. They will be engaged in building mechanical constructions and gain an understanding of what simple machines are and why we need them. Our young scientists will use a variety of materials in order to observe chemical reactions and physical phenomena as well as become familiar with the basics of robotics and programming through teamwork, following the creative process.

Our students are the learners of the 21st century!



THE ORFF SYSTEM OF TEACHING MUSIC ENCOURAGES CHILDREN TO DEVELOP INTELLECTUALLY, SOCIALLY, EMOTIONALLY AND AESTHETICALLY.



MUSIC PROGRAMME: ORFF SYSTEM

The ORFF System is a developmental approach used in music education. It is a combination of music, movement, speech and drama. The students will sing songs together, make up their own lyrics, melodies and dances, learn rhythmic patterns and play various instruments such as hand drums, shakers, claves, cymbals, xylophones, metallophones and many more.

Carl Orff believed that children can learn music in a very natural environment, without formal instruction. Children begin with what they do instinctively: play! All the materials needed to teach students are basic, natural, and close to a child's world of thought and fantasy. The ORFF approach has purpose beyond the music classroom.



Children develop **intellectually**, as they become problem solvers and critical thinkers. **Socially**, as it cultivates co-operation, communication, good listening skills, attention and patience. **Emotionally**, music and movement provides the child with avenues for non-verbal expression of emotions. **Aesthetically**, because as knowledge and skills in music and movement grow, students will develop standards of what is considered "good"- within the concept - which is being explored.

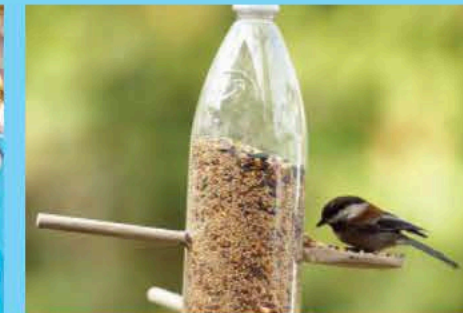


MELINA'S GARDEN LAB

MELINA'S GARDEN LAB

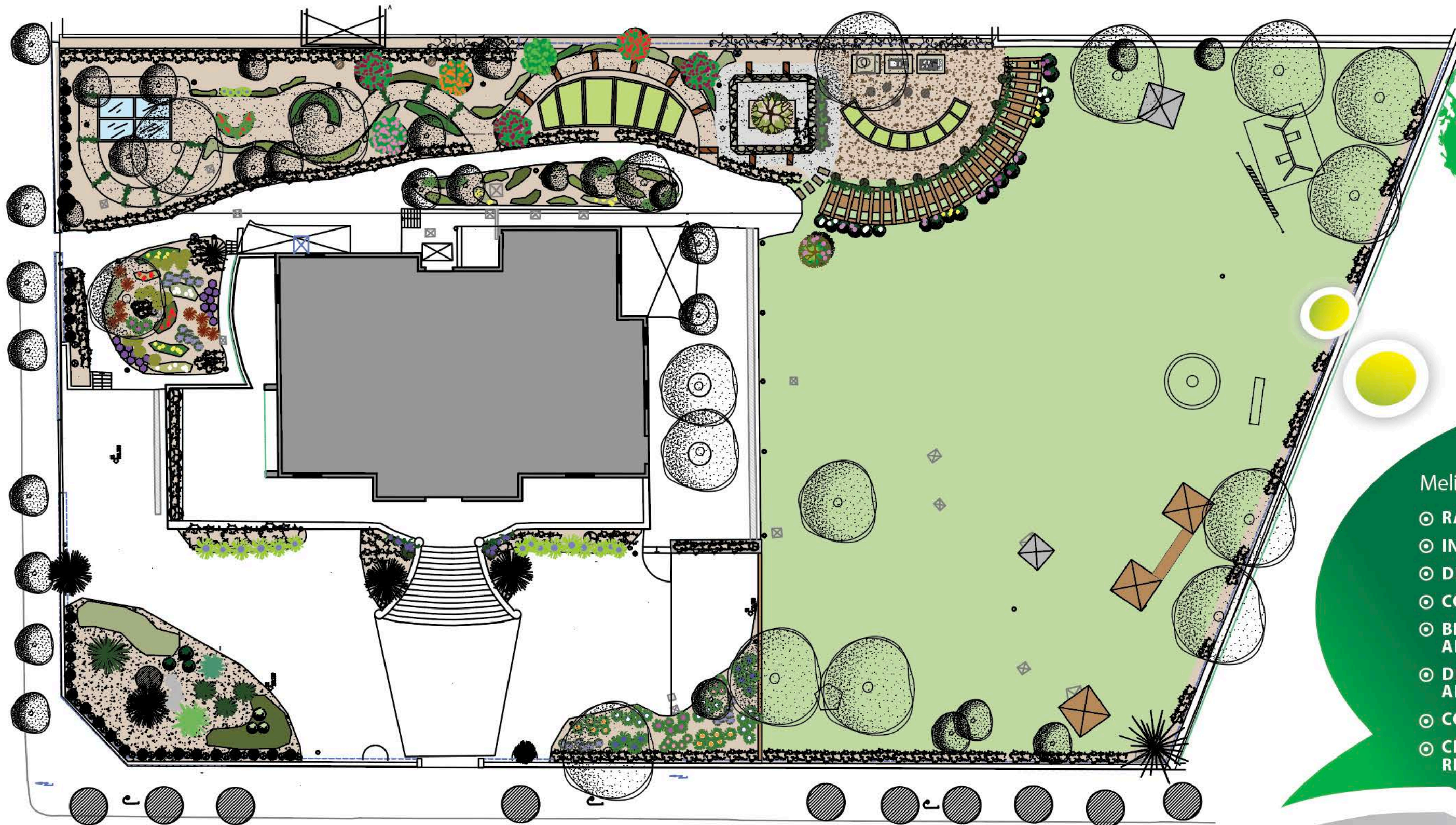
A school garden is considered a very important part in a child's development. Gardening is educational and develops new skills including responsibility from caring for plants, understanding, as the children learn about cause and effect and self-confidence from achieving their goals and enjoying the food they have grown.

Melina's Garden Lab is a unique outdoor classroom designed by a group of agronomists. The purpose of this unique garden is for our students to raise environmental awareness, develop critical thinking skills, become familiar with scientific methodology and research, develop observations skills, collect data and process the data, create their own crafts from recycled materials and make bird feeders, bird nests and insect hotels.



In Melina's Garden Lab the students will find a variety of plants, including trees, fruit trees, bushes, herbs, flowers and a small green house. The students will have the opportunity to grow their own vegetables, potatoes and flowers. A special area with wooden benches and pergolas will serve as their outdoor classroom.

The process of planting their own seeds, watching them grow into plants, preparing their own grown food and eventually eating it, will give the children a new and sustainable perspective on healthy eating habits.

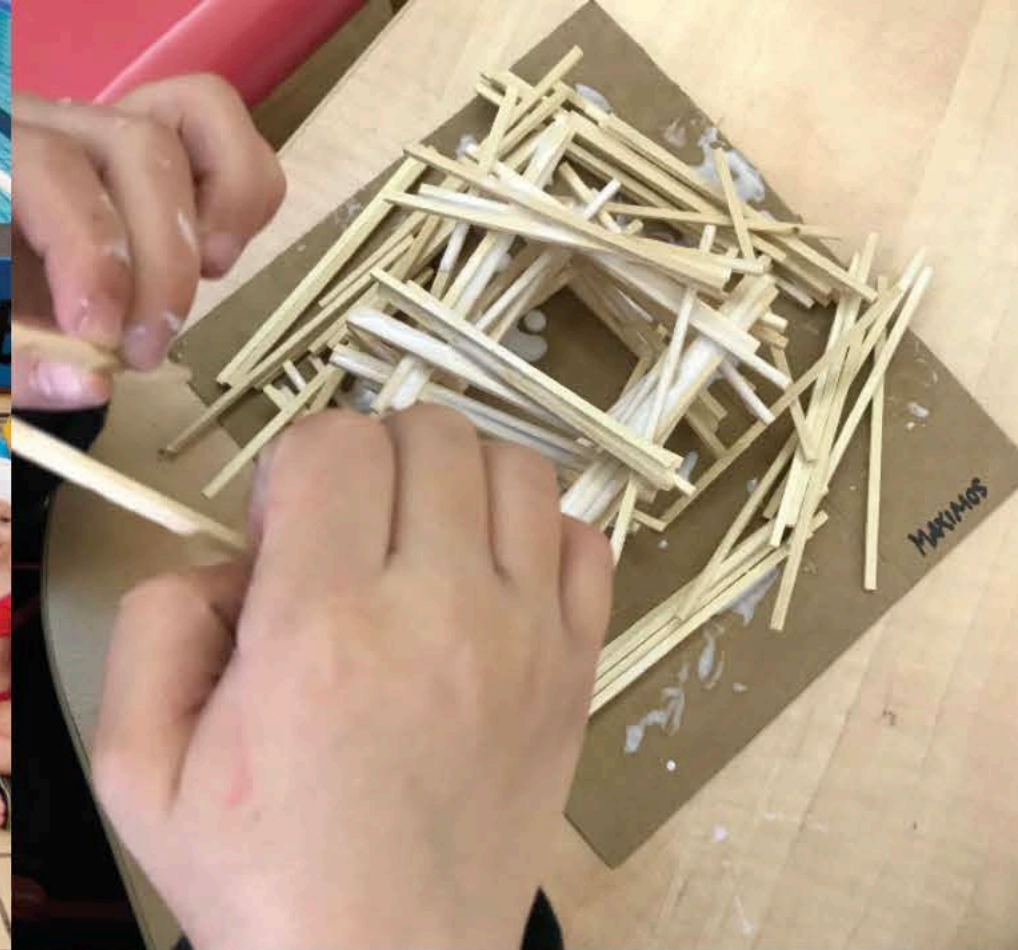


CHARILAOU TRIKOUPI.

Melina's Garden Lab aims for the children to:

- ⊙ RAISE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS
- ⊙ INVESTIGATE BIOLOGICAL PHENOMENA
- ⊙ DEVELOP CRITICAL MIND
- ⊙ COOPERATE
- ⊙ BE FAMILIAR WITH SCIENTIFIC METHODOLOGY AND RESEARCH
- ⊙ DEVELOP SKILLS AS OBSERVING, DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING
- ⊙ CONNECT OUR FOOD WITH MOTHER NATURE
- ⊙ CREATE THEIR OWN SIMPLE CRAFTS FROM RECYCLED MATERIALS





EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & SUMMER SCHOOL

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our enrichment programme provides students with a variety of activities such as sports, music, arts and crafts, nature and gardening and listening to stories, in order to learn new skills beyond the classroom. It also gives students the opportunity to play and build friendships with students both in structured and non-structured activities.

Optional activities are:

- ⊙ **Swimming**
- ⊙ **Tennis**
- ⊙ **ARKKI**



ARKKI WORKSHOPS FOLLOW A HANDS-ON, IMMERSIVE APPROACH TO ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION: CHILDREN PLAY WITH TOOLS AND MATERIALS, THEY SEE THINGS FROM NEW AND UNEXPECTED ANGLES, THEY LEARN TO PLAN AND EXPERIMENT AND THEY DISCOVER THEIR OWN VOCATIONS AND THEIR OWN TALENTS. ALL WORKSHOPS ENHANCE THREE-DIMENSIONAL PERCEPTION, FINE MOTOR SKILLS AND COMMUNICATION.



Summer Programme

Melina's Summer Programme provides a wonderful opportunity for children aged from 2 ½ to 6 years old to spend five weeks with both fun and educational activities. Students not only have fun learning alongside their friends, but they also benefit from this great opportunity to get to know some new friends before starting school in September. Our schedule includes language learning for native and non-native English speakers, arts and crafts, music, water activities and cookery. An enthusiastic group of teachers, drawn from our faculty, has created an enriching programme in an inspiring and safe environment.

Special days have been arranged during the course of the programme. Every Monday and Friday, the children spend some time in our Kindergarten kitchen where they have the opportunity to "kinder-cook". On Wednesdays, we have our theme days. On those days, we encourage students to wear something of a specific color and bring something from home related to the theme.

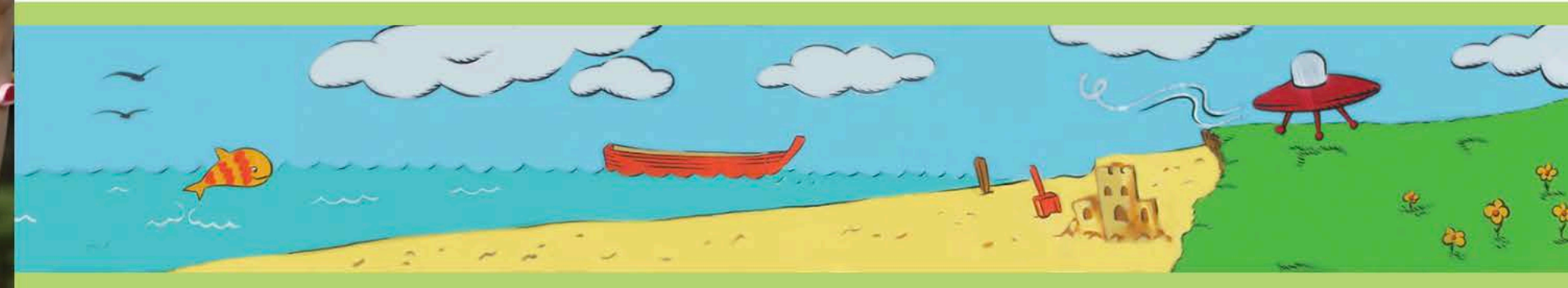


SCHOOL SERVICES

Counselling
Under the umbrella of student services, the psychologist of Melina's Kindergarten offers counselling services for students and families in our school community. It is part of our school's philosophy to help the students master academic, social and emotional skills that will be part of their whole lives.

Nurse
The school provides the services of a full time nurse who is assisted by personnel trained in first aid. The school nurse is available for first aid for minor injuries and ailments and liaison with parents.

Uniform
A simple school uniform is worn by children starting from Junior Pre-Kindergarten. School uniform gives children a sense of identity and belonging to the school.



Parent Community
At Melina's Kindergarten, we welcome parents to become involved in helping the school and children through a variety of events, for instance during our annual Christmas Bazaar, chaperoning field trips and organizing bake sales.

WE OPERATE 365 DAYS A YEAR
FROM 07:00 UNTIL 19:00 AND OFFER
A FREE-OF-CHARGE BABYSITTING
PROGRAMME.



OPERATING HOURS/ BUS SERVICES

Our Operating Hours

Melina's Kindergarten operates 365 days a year from 07:00 until 19:00. Normal school hours are from 09:00 to 15:00. In order to meet the needs of working parents, we offer a free-of-charge babysitting programme in the morning from **07:00 until 9:00 and in the afternoon from 15:00 until 19:00.**

To accommodate our working parent community, free of charge babysitting is available during the month of August from 7:00 to 19:00. The children who attend the babysitting service will spend their time creatively, playing with their friends, painting, making constructions and story time.

The babysitting service takes place in a safe and nourishing English environment.



MELINA'S KINDERGARTEN, A HOME AWAY FROM HOME!

365 / 7^{am} - 7^{pm}
days a year

Bus Services

Bus transportation is available and provides a door-to-door service for students of Melina's Kindergarten. Our school buses are all school-owned and the bus drivers and bus monitors are well trained and carefully selected, based on their experience, sense of responsibility, and their stance towards children. They transport children under the safest possible conditions. The Transportation Department supervises and monitors the proper operation and safety of all school vehicles. Any mechanical problems are tended to immediately by qualified technical assistance staff and mechanics. All school buses go through the inspection procedure set by the ministry of transport.