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## "The writer by nature is a dreamer- a conscious dreamer."

Trekking through the wild is one thing; writing imaginatively about it is quite another, Mumbai based writer Deepak Dalal seems to have blended these traits well. For Dalal, children's fiction has a purpose to introduce them to the beauty and nature of the world. Recently, Shree Ram Millenium School organized an interactive Author-meet with Mr. Deepak Dalal on 31st January, 2019.



The meet provided an enlightening platform for both the students and teachers to interact with the eminent writer. Ten students from Class 4, who are avid readers, got an opportunity to interact with the author. He regaled the audience with anecdotes and stories from his school days and his love for little creatures. He began his session with the display of a Picture Presentation where he introduced students with the various species of birds, their habitats and the harsh climate under which they undertake flight to migrate from one country to another.



He further sensitized students on why we should not cage birds. Birds are meant to fly and to be with other of their own kind in a natural environment. Confinement causes birds to have temper issues and lowers their life span. Dalal continuously restated:

"birds in cages sing really sad songs." This is also the theme of his books. The feather tale series of bird stories came to him because of his immense love for animals. He believes that it is the sense of oneness with nature that he hopes to inspire in kids.



"My real wish is for kids to connect to these birds. If the kids are anything like Mitali, the hero of feather tale series, they must be plotting how to spend their summer vacations rescuing birds and animals around their homes." Children had fun time interacting with the writer and showed inquisitiveness to know more about our feathery friends. Meeting concluded with students singing an invigorating poem they made on the spot for the writer. Later, some of the students purchased signed copy of his book and bid adieu.



Submitted by: Deeksha Sharma

